

3

ALTAIR

A RECORD OF BATTLES

◦ Kotono Kato ◦

ALTAIR

A RECORD OF BATTLES



WORLD & CHARACTER GUIDE OF FALTAIR

Balt-Rhein Empire



Balt-Rhein Emperor.



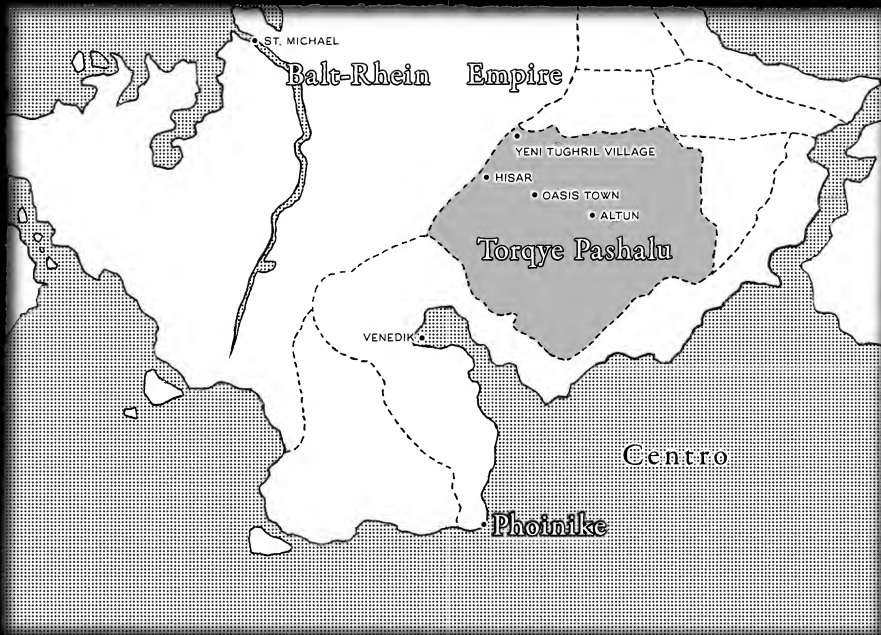
Minister of the Balt-Rhein Empire.



Duchess of the Ellvaldes region of the empire.



Lelederik's right hand.



The story until now.

Mahmut has set out on a journey to cultivate knowledge and Zaganos's spy network, he meets an unexpected character! Suleyman, a fellow Tughril clansman! Having met another his resolve. In search of more knowledge, he heads to

strength. While trying to make contact with members of The Eyes and Ears Chief turns out to be none other than who shoulders the same regret and anger, Mahmut hardens Rumeriana's oldest standing city of Phoinike...

Torqye Pashalu



Formerly Torqye's youngest pasha until he was demoted to binbashu.



One of the thirteen ruling vezirs. Idare of the first eyalet.



One of the thirteen ruling vezirs. Idare of the seventh eyalet.



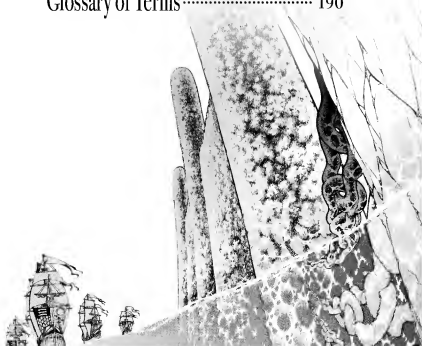
Chief of the Eyes and Ears, Zaganos's personal spy network.

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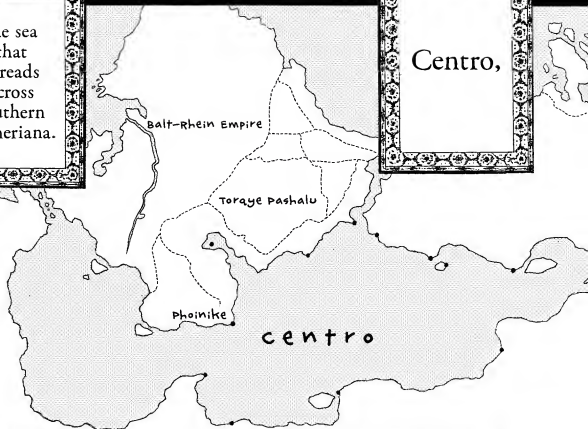


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the sea
that
spreads
across
southern
Rumeriana.

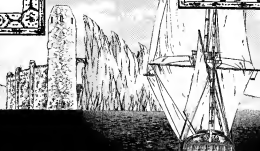
Centro,



It is said that
not a single
country in all
of Rumeriana
has escaped the
cultural influence
of the great
ocean empire of
Phoinike's capital..

As the
center of travel
throughout
Centro since
ancient times,
it has ruled
the southern
seas for over
1800 years.

Standing
as a marker
dividing
Centro into
east and west
is the harbor
city-state of
Phoinike.

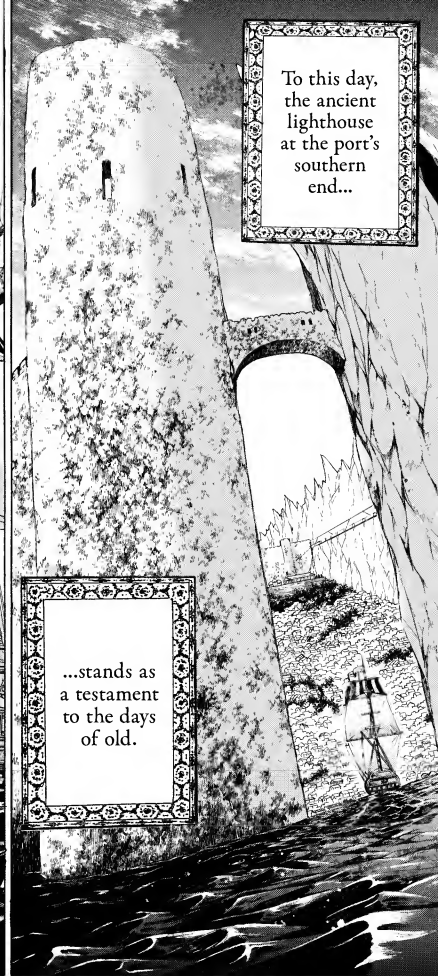


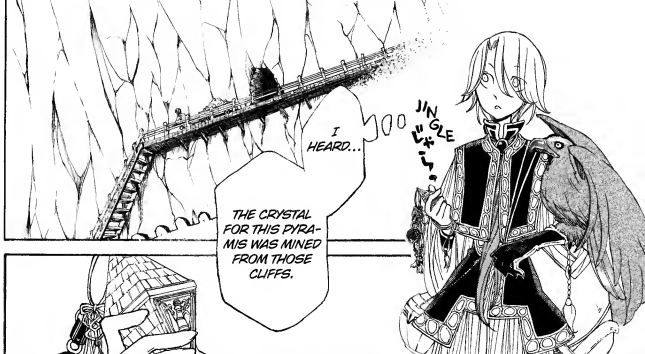
Fasul 12 The Lighthouse City



To this day,
the ancient
lighthouse
at the port's
southern
end...

...stands as
a testament
to the days
of old.

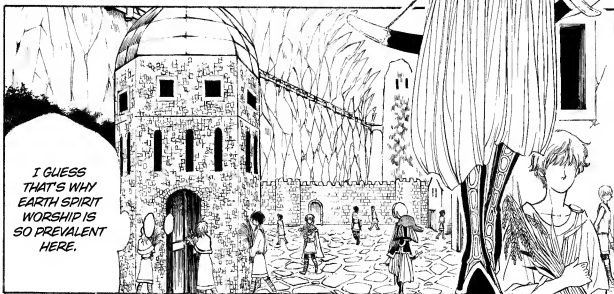




I HEARD...

JINGLE
♪♪♪

THE CRYSTAL
FOR THIS PYRA-
MIS WAS MINED
FROM THOSE
CLIFFS.



I GUESS
THAT'S WHY
EARTH SPIRIT
WORSHIP IS
SO PREVALENT
HERE.



IF I WANT
TO GET A
HANDLE ON
INFORMATION
SURROUND-
ING THE CITY,

MY BEST
BET IS TO
MEET WITH
THE KULAK
STATIONED
HERE.

IN THAT
CASE, WHERE
EXACTLY WILL
I FIND THE
WATER
SHRINE?



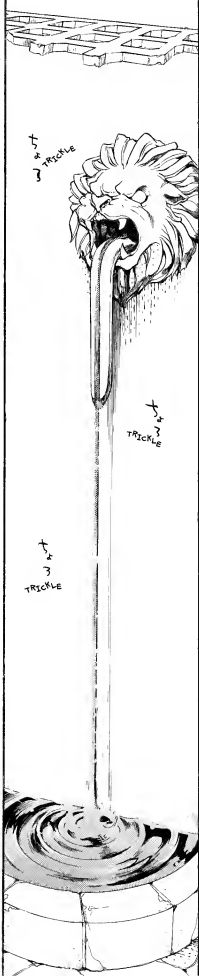
WELL,
MIGHT
AS WELL
GIVE THE
SIGNAL.

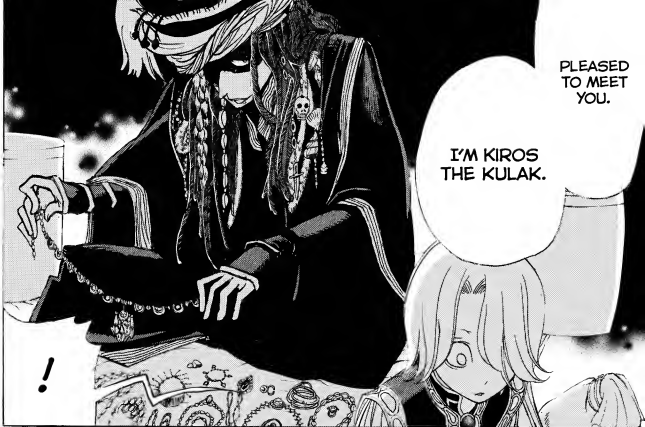
グイン
シ
+ =



DON'T TURN
AROUND AND
JUST LISTEN
TO ME.

STAY
WHERE
YOU
ARE.





PLEASED
TO MEET
YOU.

I'M KIROS
THE KULAK.



Y-YES...

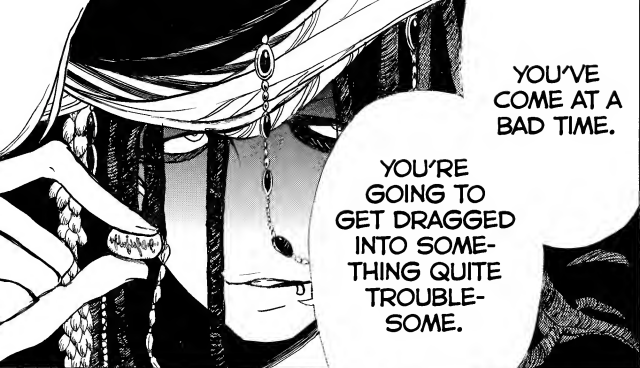
THIS IS YOUR
FIRST TIME IN
PHOINIKE, IS IT
NOT, MAHMUT
BEY?



...THE CITY'S
COUNCIL
MEMBERS
HAD LONG
CAUGHT ON
TO YOUR
MOVEMENTS.



I SHOULD
INFORM YOU
THAT EVEN
BEFORE YOU
BOARDED THE
SHIP HERE...



YOU'VE
COME AT A
BAD TIME.

YOU'RE
GOING TO
GET DRAGGED
INTO SOME-
THING QUITE
TROUBLE-
SOME.



?

THAT REMINDS
ME, TODORIS.
I STILL HAVEN'T
HAD LUNCH YET!

AH!



7
01
11



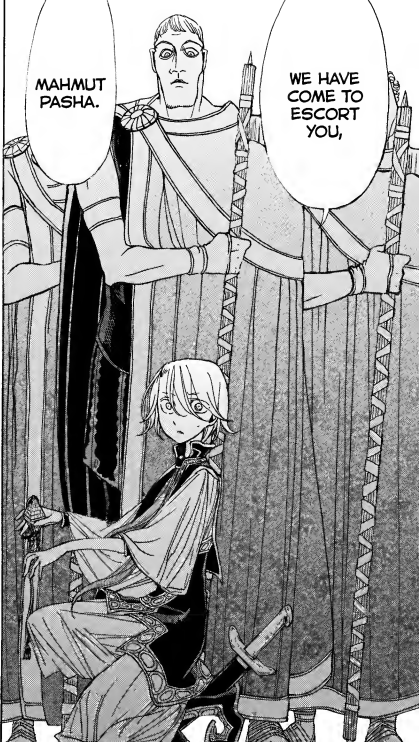
HUH...?

I HEAR THE PEOPLE
OF TORQYE ARE VERY
DEVOTED TO THE
WATER SPIRIT.

MY, MY.
HOW VERY
PIOUS.



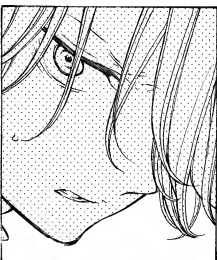
THE PHOINIKE
MAGISTROS*, LORD
KONSTANTINOS,
INVITES YOU TO
JOIN HIM FOR
DINNER.



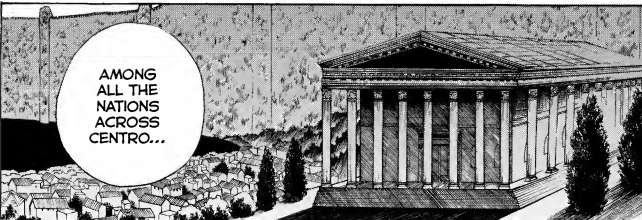
MAHMUT
PASHA.

WE HAVE
COME TO
ESCORT
YOU,

*MAGISTROS: MAGISTER



AMONG
ALL THE
NATIONS
ACROSS
CENTRO...



TUGHRIL
MAHMUT
PASHA.

...THE MASKED
PERFORMANCE
OF YOUR FEATS
IS PARTICULARLY
A HIT HERE IN
PHOINIKE,

PHOINIKE-MAGISTROS
Konstantinos

AND I
KNEW I
JUST HAD
TO INVITE
YOU TO
DINNER.

PLEASE
FORGIVE
MY RUDE-
NESS.

I HEARD
YOU WERE
COMING TO
PHOINIKE,

ARE YOU
SURE HE'S
THE REAL
DEAL?!

ISN'T
MAHMUT THE
GOLDEN EAGLE
SUPPOSED
TO BE A GIANT
WITH A BUSHY
RED BEARD?

BUT I
MUST SAY,
YOU'RE MUCH
DIFFERENT
THAN HOW
YOU ARE
PORTRAYED
IN THE PLAY.

NOW,
LET'S NOT
BE RUDE,
PATRIKIOS
ZENON...

I CAN'T
IMAGINE
THIS SHRIMP
PULLING
THAT OFF.

I HEARD HE
CRUSHES THE
HEADS OF HIS
ENEMIES WITH
ONE HAND!

SENATE PATRIKIOS
Zenon

*PATRIKIOS: PATRICIAN

I'VE
SEEN ALL
OF YOUR
SHOWS.

IT'S THE
THEATER'S
JOB TO POR-
TRAY PEOPLE
AND EVENTS IN
A SIMPLIFIED,
DRAMATIZED
MANNER.

IT'S ONLY
NATURAL THAT
REALITY PROVE
DIFFERENT.

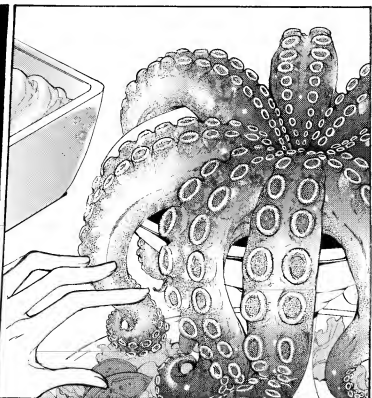
SENATE PATRIKIOS
Nikephoros

WHO
ARE WE
TALKING
ABOUT
AGAIN...?

I FEEL VERY
BLESSED TO
LIVE DURING
THE SAME ERA
AS A HERO
SUCH AS
YOURSELF.

RUNNING
DOWN A
CASTLE WALL
ON CAMEL BACK
AND CHARGING
INTO ENEMY
RANKS ALONE.

LIKE THE ONE
WHERE YOU
CLEAVED A
SANDSTORM
IN TWO WITH
SWING OF
YOUR SHAM-
SHIR,





TO THE SOUTH
OF PHOINIKE
LIES A PORT
TOWN BY THE
NAME OF
THARROS.

THIS
THARROS,
IS AN
INDEPENDENT
CITY-STATE
WITH A MASSIVE
HINTERLAND
RICH IN FOOD
PRODUCTION.



FURTHER-
MORE,

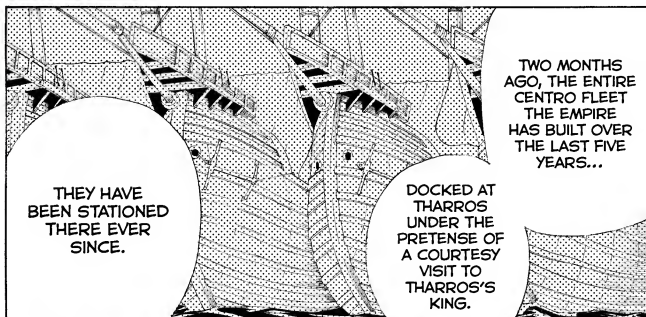
*FIVE
YEARS
AGO!
THAT'S
WHEN
MINISTER
LOUIS
ASSUMED
OFFICE...*



FIVE
YEARS
AGO,

THE EMPIRE
PROPOSED
AN AMITY
TREATY TO
FOSTER
TRADE.

EVER SINCE,
THARROS'S
ECONOMY
HAS BEEN
BECOMING
MORE RELIANT
ON THE EMPIRE
EVERY YEAR.



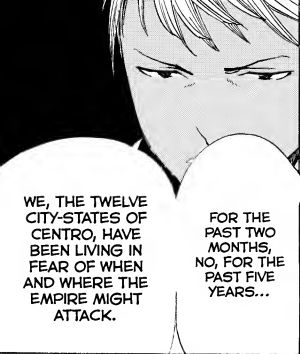
THEY HAVE
BEEN STATIONED
THERE EVER
SINCE.

TWO MONTHS
AGO, THE ENTIRE
CENTRO FLEET
THE EMPIRE
HAS BUILT OVER
THE LAST FIVE
YEARS...

DOCKED AT
THARROS
UNDER THE
PRETENSE OF
A COURTESY
VISIT TO
THARROS'S
KING.



WHAT DO
YOU MAKE
OF THIS
SITUATION,
MAHMUT
PASHA?



WE, THE TWELVE
CITY-STATES OF
CENTRO, HAVE
BEEN LIVING IN
FEAR OF WHEN
AND WHERE THE
EMPIRE MIGHT
ATTACK.

FOR THE
PAST TWO
MONTHS,
NO, FOR THE
PAST FIVE
YEARS...

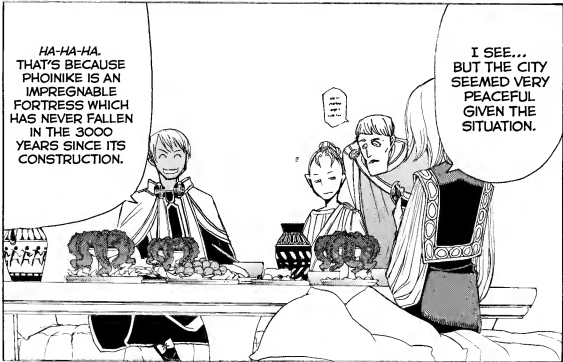


EXACT-
LY...



AS PREPA-
RATIONS
TO ATTACK
ANOTHER
PORT TOWN
IN THE NEAR
FUTURE.

I CAN
ONLY
SEE
IT...



HA-HA-HA.
THAT'S BECAUSE
PHOINIKE IS AN
IMPREGNABLE
FORTRESS WHICH
HAS NEVER FALLEN
IN THE 3000
YEARS SINCE ITS
CONSTRUCTION.

I SEE...
BUT THE CITY
SEEMED VERY
PEACEFUL
GIVEN THE
SITUATION.



ALL
RIGHT.



MAGISTROS.



BUT I
OFTEN
THINK...

IT MAY BE
IMPRUDENT
OF ME,

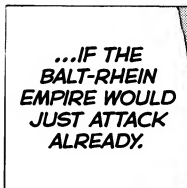


PLEASE,
DON'T
MIND ME.

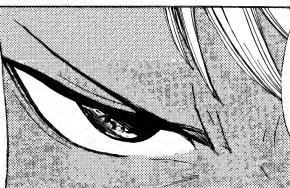


PARDON
ME, MAHMUT
PASHA.

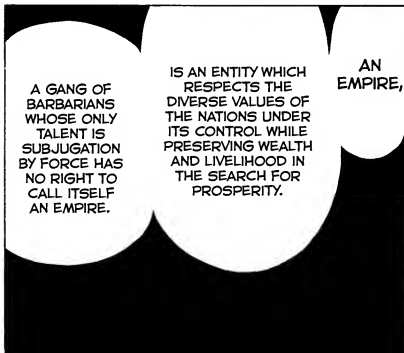
I AM
SCHEDULED
TO MEET WITH
A FOREIGN
DELEGATE
SOON.



**...IF THE
BALT-RHEIN
EMPIRE WOULD
JUST ATTACK
ALREADY.**



**...PERHAPS
IT WOULD
BE FOR THE
BEST...**



A GANG OF
BARBARIANS
WHOSE ONLY
TALENT IS
SUBJUGATION
BY FORCE HAS
NO RIGHT TO
CALL ITSELF
AN EMPIRE.

IS AN ENTITY WHICH
RESPECTS THE
DIVERSE VALUES OF
THE NATIONS UNDER
ITS CONTROL WHILE
PRESERVING WEALTH
AND LIVELIHOOD IN
THE SEARCH FOR
PROSPERITY.

AN
EMPIRE,

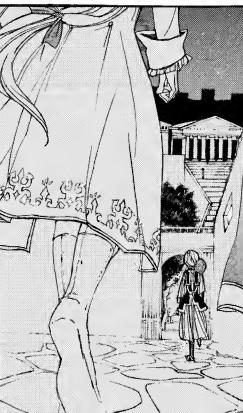
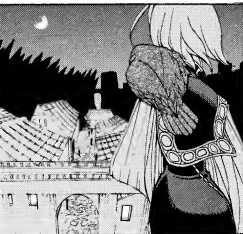


THAT'S ALL
RIGHT. I
CAN MAKE
IT BACK
MYSELF.

LICTOR*!
ESCORT
MAHMUT
PASHA
BACK TO
THE INN,
PLEASE.



*LICTOR: AN OFFICER WHO ATTENDS THE MAGISTRATE.

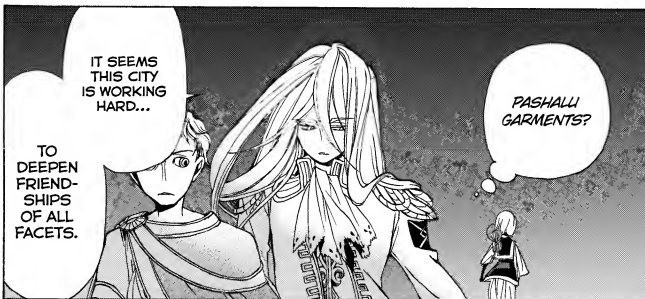
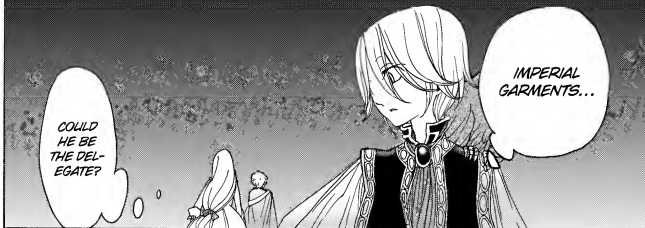


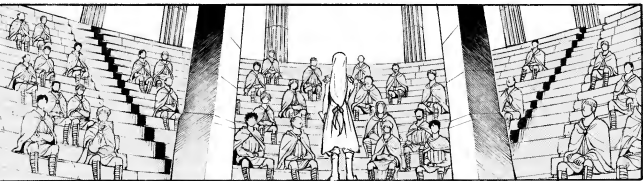
I FEEL
THAT IF
THEY WERE
TO ATTACK
PHOINIKE,



WE, THE
DESCENDANTS
OF THE GREAT
EMPIRE OF OLD,
COULD TEACH
THEM WHAT IT
TRULY MEANS TO
BE AN EMPIRE.







AS LONG AS
WE PROVIDE
THE MILITARY
PORT,

AS YOU
MENTIONED
BEFORE,

IN RETURN,
THE EMPIRE
GUARANTEES
THAT OUR WAY
OF LIFE AND ECO-
NOMIC SITUATION
WILL REMAIN
UNCHANGED, IF
I UNDERSTAND
CORRECTLY.

I-IN THAT
CASE, I CAN
FIND NO
REASON TO
REFUSE.

PHOENIXE KAISARAS

Apollodorus

*KAISARAS: CAESAR

CALM
YOUR-
SELF...

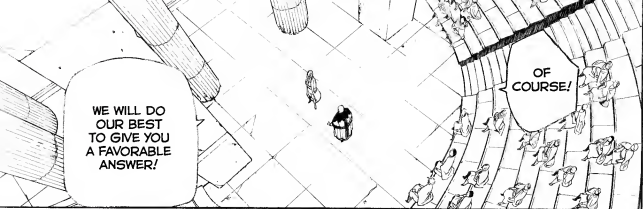
DAMN
THAT PIG/
SAYING
WHATEVER
HE WANTS...

PLEASE
WAIT,
KAISARAS!

!

I WILL
RETURN
WHEN THE
TIME LIMIT
IS UP.

WE WILL GIVE
YOU TEN DAYS
TO COME TO A
CONCLUSION.



WE WILL DO
OUR BEST
TO GIVE YOU
A FAVORABLE
ANSWER!

OF
COURSE!

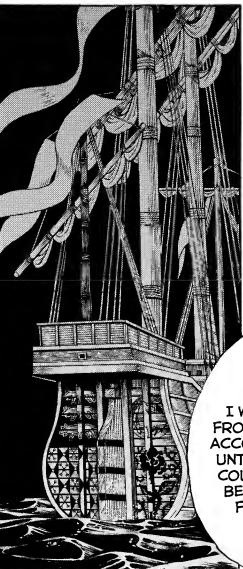


THANK
YOU,

BUT
THERE IS
NO NEED
FOR THAT.

IF YOU'D
LIKE, I
SHALL MAKE
ARRANGE-
MENTS AT
THE PORT'S
FINEST INN
FOR YOU
TONIGHT.

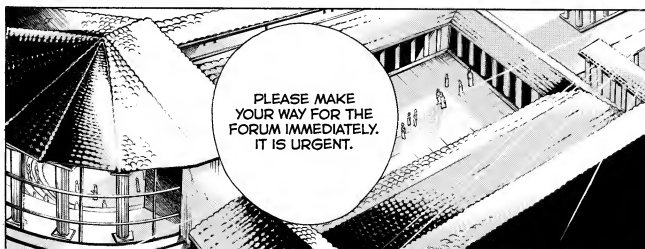
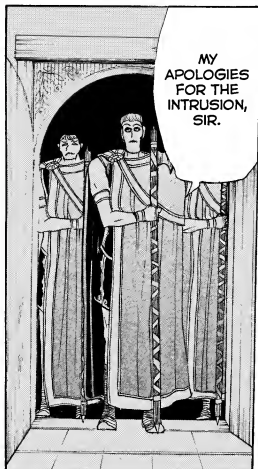
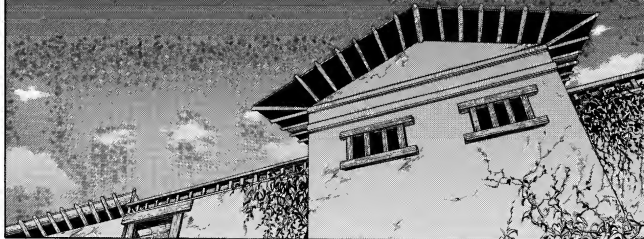
BY THE
WAY, LORD
GLALAT.



I WILL REFRAIN
FROM THE LUXURY
ACCOMMODATIONS
UNTIL AFTER OUR
COUNTRIES HAVE
BEEN BOUND IN
FRIENDSHIP.



I WILL
REST IN
MY SHIP
TONIGHT.





AS LONG AS
WE COMPLY,
WE'LL BE ABLE
TO KEEP LIVING
AS WE ALWAYS
HAVE!

WE'LL ONLY
BE CEDING A
PART OF THE
HARBOR!

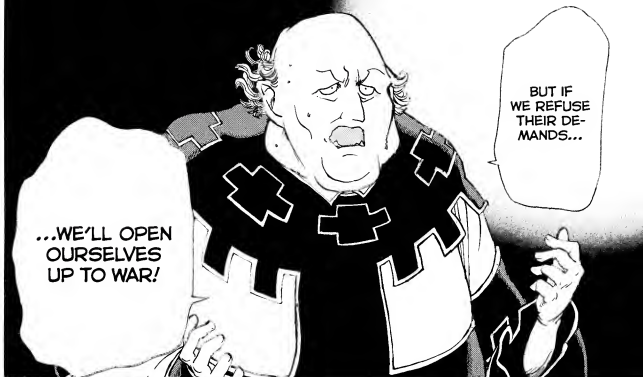


WE CANNOT
BEND TO
THE WILL OF
THOSE CHEAP
IMITATORS!

WE ARE
DESCEN-
DANTS OF
THE TRUE
EMPIRE!

YOU
MAY
CALL
IT CES-
SION,

BUT THIS
IS NOTHING
LESS THAN
A HOSTILE
TAKEOVER!



...WE'LL OPEN
OURSELVES
UP TO WAR!

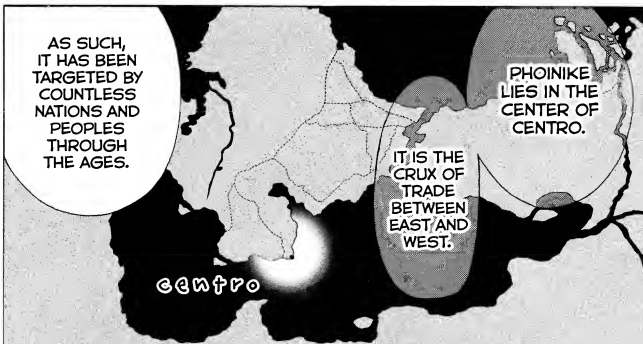
BUT IF
WE REFUSE
THEIR DE-
MANDS...



AS TO
WHY THE
EMPIRE HAS
ITS EYES
SET ON
PHOINIKE.

I SUGGEST
YOU THINK
CAREFULLY...

KAISARAS,



AS SUCH,
IT HAS BEEN
TARGETED BY
COUNTLESS
NATIONS AND
PEOPLES
THROUGH
THE AGES.

PHOINIKE
LIES IN THE
CENTER OF
CENTRO.

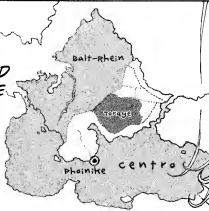
IT IS THE
CRUX OF
TRADE
BETWEEN
EAST AND
WEST.

centro

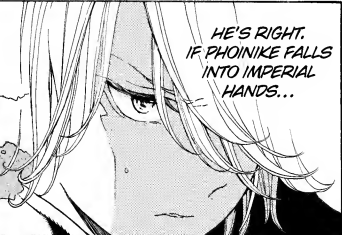


...MEANS
TO EXERCISE
HEGEMONY OVER
THE ENTIRETY
OF CENTRO.

TO CONTROL
THIS CITY...



...TORQYE
WILL BE
SURROUNDED
FROM THREE
SIDES.



HE'S RIGHT.
IF PHOINIKE FALLS
INTO IMPERIAL
HANDS...

NO MATTER
HOW POWER-
FUL THE
MILITARY
STATE OF
BALT-RHEIN
MAY BE,

IT WOULD
BE NOTHING
SHORT OF
RECKLESS
TO ATTACK
THE CITY.

**IN 3,000
YEARS, NOT
ONCE HAVE
WE ALLOWED
INVADERS TO
BREACH THIS
CITY!**

HOWEVER, AS
IS COMMON
KNOWLEDGE,

THANKS TO
THE PROTECTION
OF THE GREAT
LIGHTHOUSE
AND GREAT WALL
CONSTRUCTED
BY PHOINIKE'S
FOUNDING
EMPEROR, KING
PHOINIX,

PHOINIKE HAS
REMAINED SAFE
IN THE 1,800
YEARS SINCE ITS
ESTABLISHMENT,
AND ANOTHER
1,200 YEARS
SINCE THE FALL
OF THE EMPIRE.

THE EMPIRE,
WHICH IS
NOT BLESSED
WITH GOOD
HARBORS,
ONLY ACQUIRED
A NAVY IN THE
LAST FIVE
YEARS.

MEANING
THEY ARE STILL
AMATEURS WHEN
IT COMES TO
SEA WARFARE.

I HAVE NO
DOUBT THAT
THIS WILL
BE A HARD
FIGHT FOR
THE EMPIRE.

I PROPOSE
THAT WE
SPURN THEIR
OUTRAGEOUS
DEMANDS,

AND
PREPARE
FOR BATTLE
IMMEDIATELY!



TO FIGHT
THEM
WOULD—

NAY.

SURELY
YOU
JEST!

THE EMPIRE
IS NOW THE
LARGEST
NATIONAL
POWER ON
THE CONTI-
NENT.



**IF WE
WIN
HERE,**

**IT WILL
GREATLY
IMPACT THE
FUTURE
OF ALL
RUMERIANA.**



**ON THE
OTHER
HAND,**

**WE COMMAND
CENTRO'S
STRONGEST
FLEET AS WELL
AS AN ALLIANCE
WITH VENEDIK.**

**THEIR
INEXPERIENCE
WILL BE FORCE
THEM TO AVOID
VENEDIK'S NAVY
AND INEVITABLY
RETREAT.**

**IF WE CAN
USE OUR
IMPREGNA-
BLE WALLS
TO DRAW OUT
THIS WAR
WITH THE
IMPERIAL
FLEET,**

**WE CAN WIN
AGAINST THE
EMPIRE.**



BECAUSE
NO ONE
TRIED TO!



THAT IS WHY
NO COUNTRY
HAS MANAGED
TO DEFEAT
THE EMPIRE IN
THE LAST 400
YEARS!

WH-
YOU'VE
LET YOUR-
SELF BE
BLINDED BY
GLORY OF
OLD!
WHAT
FOOLISH-
NESS!



MAHMUT
PASHA HERE
PROVED THAT
AT THE BATTLE
OF HISAR!

BUT I ASSURE
YOU IT IS NOT
IMPOSSIBLE!

DID HE NOT
SINGLE-HANDEDLY
ACHIEVE VICTORY
AGAINST THE
IMPERIAL ARMY?!

OH, NO!



...WHA?!

THUNK

PLEASE...

STOP
THIS.

THIS
IS WHY
I WAS
CALLED?

I DID NOT
FIGHT THE
IMPERIAL ARMY
DIRECTLY AT
HISAR.

EVERYTHING
I DID WAS
FOR THE SOLE
PURPOSE OF
AVOIDING FULL-
OUT WAR WITH
THE EMPIRE.

I'LL TAKE
THIS OP-
PORTUNITY
TO MAKE
THINGS
CLEAR,

THE STORIES
OF MY HERO-
ICS YOU'VE
HEARD ARE
MOSTLY
FICTION.

...AS A
MEANS TO
JUSTIFY
WAR!

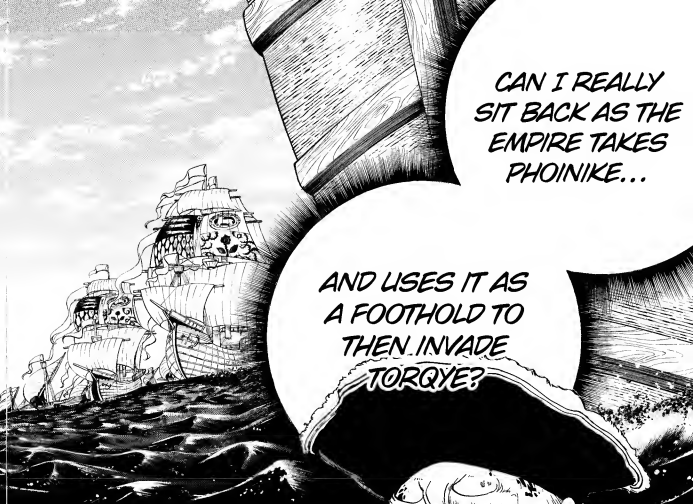
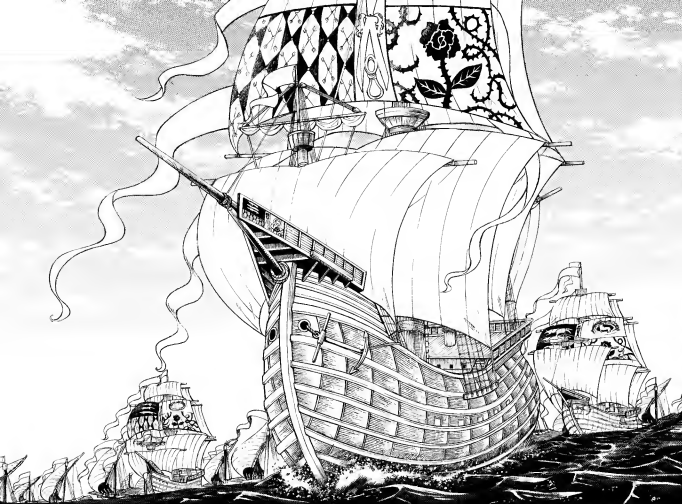
PLEASE
STOP
USING
MY FALSE
GLORY...

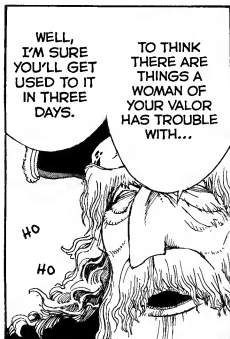
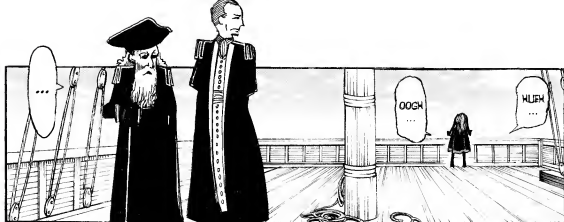
THEN,

WHAT
EXACTLY...

...DO I WANT
TO HAPPEN?

WAIT A
SECOND...



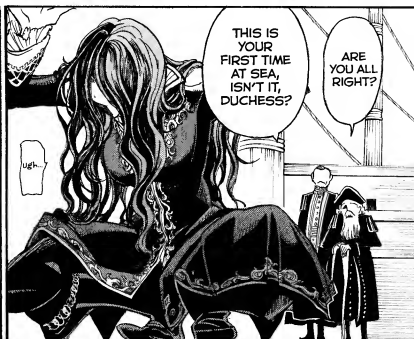


WELL,
I'M SURE
YOU'LL GET
USED TO IT
IN THREE
DAYS.

TO THINK
THERE ARE
THINGS A
WOMAN OF
YOUR VALOR
HAS TROUBLE
WITH...

HO

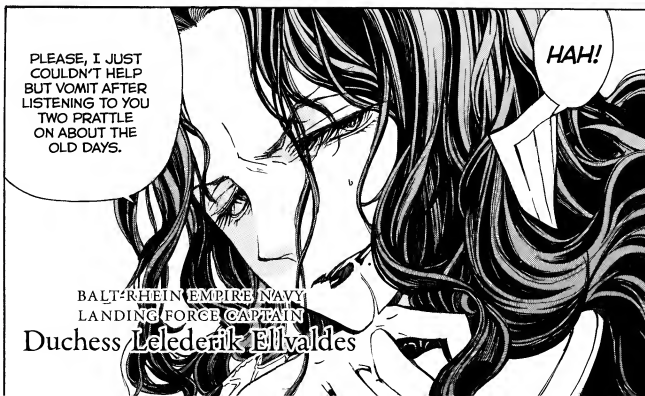
HO



THIS IS
YOUR
FIRST TIME
AT SEA,
ISN'T IT,
DUCHESS?

ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

ugh



PLEASE, I JUST
COULDN'T HELP
BUT VOMIT AFTER
LISTENING TO YOU
TWO PRATTLE
ON ABOUT THE
OLD DAYS.

HAH!

BALT-RHEIN EMPIRE NAVY
LANDING FORCE CAPTAIN
Duchess Lelederik Ellvaldes

THAT'S
NOT—

THAT'S
IT!

YOU NEVER
TAKE PRIDE
IN YOUR OWN
ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS.

I
SHOULD
HAVE
EXPECT-
ED!

THAT WAY
WE'LL BE
SEEN AS
HAVING THE
SUPPORT OF
TORQYE.

HOW
ABOUT
THIS?

THEN WE'LL
HAVE MORE
LEVERAGE
FOR A BETTER
DEAL WHEN
IT COMES TO
CEDING THE
PORT!

WHY DON'T WE
HAVE MAHMUT
PASHA JOIN THE
NEGOTIATIONS
AS WELL?!

I DEEPLY
RESPECT
YOU FOR
THAT.

YOU ARE THIS
CITY'S MOST
SKILLED
TRADESMAN
AND YOUR
CONTRIBUT-
IONS TO THE
COUNTRY HAVE
BEEN MANY.

HOW-
EVER,

WILL BE
SCORND
BY THE
ENTIRE
WORLD!

THOSE WHO
HOLD THE
STRONGEST
CITY IN ALL OF
CENTRO, YET
REFUSE TO
FIGHT IN ORDER
TO PROTECT IT,

WUW?!

KAISARAS.

SWIFT



AND WHAT OF IT?!

EVEN IF WE
MANAGE TO BUY
SOME TIME BY
PROSTRATING
OURSELVES TO
THE EMPIRE, WE
WILL BE CON-
DEMNED BY ALL
OUR NEIGHBORS!

EVEN THE
CITY YOU
LOVE SO
MUCH WILL
BE DE-
STROYED!

OUR FAMI-
LIES AND
FRIENDS,

IF WE
GO TO WAR,



YOU'RE
USING
PEACE
AS AN
EXCUSE,

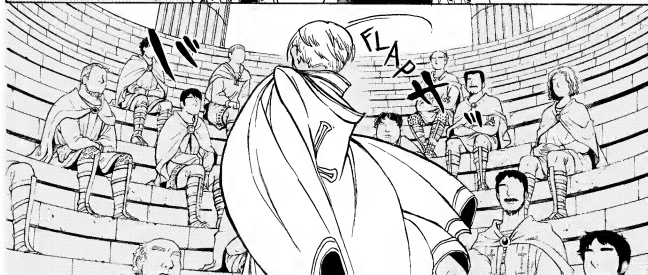
KAISARAS,

BETTER
THAN
THROWING
AWAY OUR
PRIDE!



SOUNDS
RIGHT
TO ME.

BUT AREN'T
YOU MORE
CONCERNED
ABOUT
LOSING YOUR
MANSION AND
FORTUNE?



**BE
TURNED
OVER TO
THE VOTE
OF THE
ECCLESIA*.**

**I PROPOSE
THAT THIS
DECISION...**

**IN ACCOR-
DANCE WITH
PHOINIKE
COUNCIL
TRADITION,**

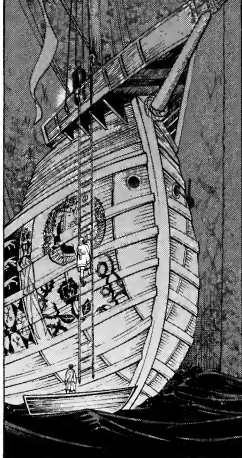
*ECCLESIA: POLITICAL ASSEMBLY OF CITIZENS

**WHICH
SIDE DID
THE MAGIS-
TROS TAKE?**

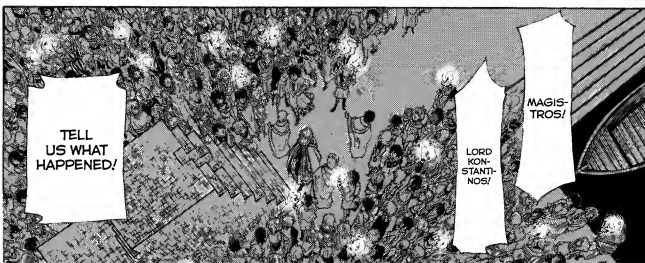
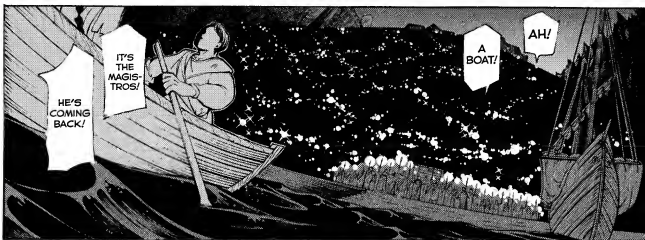
**ISN'T IT
OBVIOUS?
THERE'S NO
WAY HE'D AC-
CEPT THOSE
DEMANDS.**

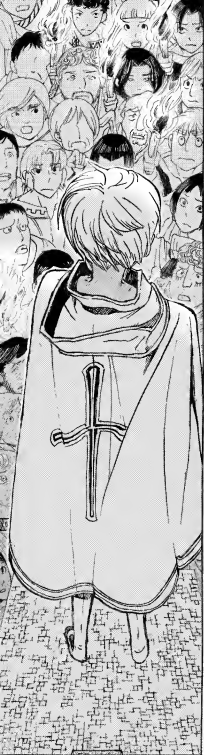
**WHAT
WAS THE
RESULT
OF THE
VOTE?!**





IT SEEMS
YOU GOT
DRAGGED IN,
AFTER ALL.





YOU'RE
NOT...



GOING
TO GIVE IN
TO THEIR
DEMANDS,
ARE YOU?!

WELL?

WHAT'S
GOING TO
HAPPEN?!



MAGIS-
TROS!



UNDER THE
NAME OF
KAISARAS
APOLLODORUS,
I HEREBY
PROCLAIM...

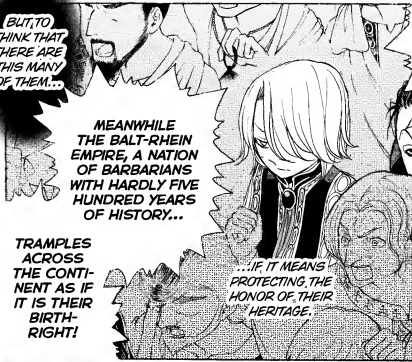
PEOPLE OF
PHOINIKE,
HEAR ME
OUT!

...IN
RESPONSE
TO THE
BALT-RHEIN
EMPIRE'S
THREAT OF
INVASION,

...WILL
READY ITS
DEFENSES
AND PRE-
PARE FOR
WAR!

THE
CITY OF
PHOINIKE...





BUT, TO
THINK THAT
THERE ARE
THIS MANY
OF THEM...

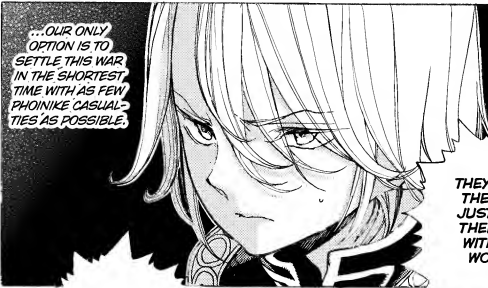
MEANWHILE
THE BALT-RHEIN
EMPIRE, A NATION
OF BARBARIANS
WITH HARDLY FIVE
HUNDRED YEARS
OF HISTORY...

TRAMPLES
ACROSS
THE CONTINENT
AS IF
IT IS THEIR
BIRTH-
RIGHT!

...IF, IT MEANS
PROTECTING THE
HONOR OF THEIR
HERITAGE.

WE ARE THE
PROUD DE-
SCENDANTS OF
THE PHOINIKE
EMPIRE WITH
3,000 YEARS
OF TRADITION
TO OUR NAME!

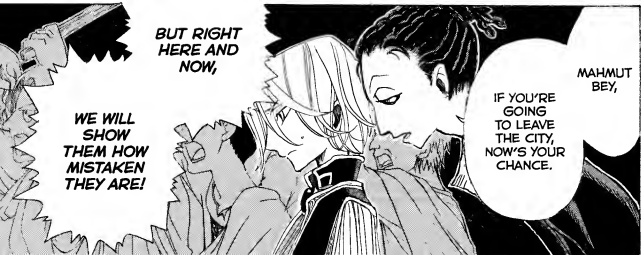
THESE PEOPLE
WON'T SHY
AWAY FROM
BLOODSHED...



...OUR ONLY
OPTION IS TO
SETTLE THIS WAR
IN THE SHORTEST
TIME WITH AS FEW
PHOINIKE CASUAL-
TIES AS POSSIBLE.

AS THINGS
STAND...

THEY THINK
THEY CAN
JUST HAVE
THEIR WAY
WITH THE
WORLD,



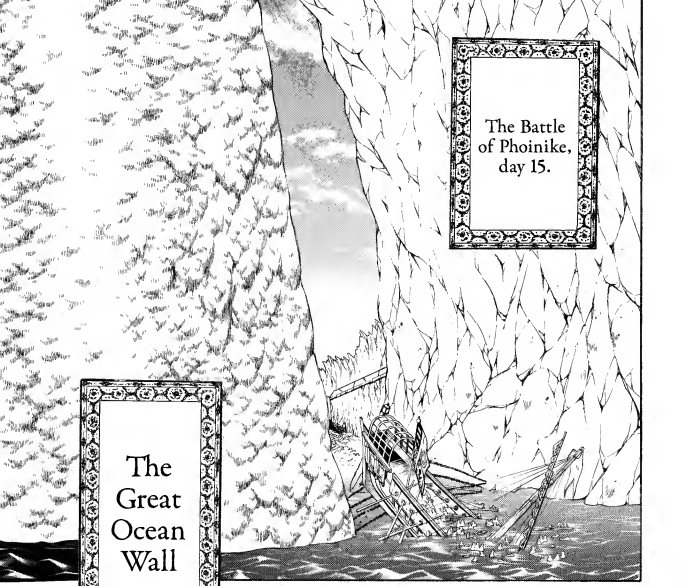
BUT RIGHT
HERE AND
NOW,

WE WILL
SHOW
THEM HOW
MISTAKEN
THEY ARE!

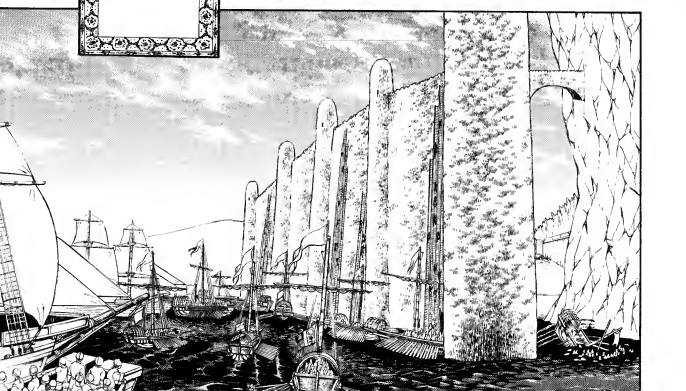
MAHMUT
BEY,

IF YOU'RE
GOING
TO LEAVE
THE CITY,
NOW'S YOUR
CHANCE.





The Battle
of Phoinike,
day 15.

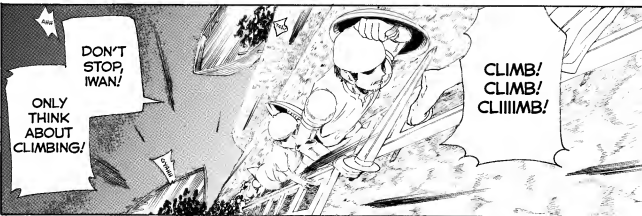


The
Great
Ocean
Wall



IF WE CLEAR
THIS WALL,
THEN VICTORY
IS OURS!

**KEEP
MOVING!**



ONLY
THINK
ABOUT
CLIMBING!

DON'T
STOP,
IWAN!

CLIMB!
CLIMB!
CLIIIIIMB!

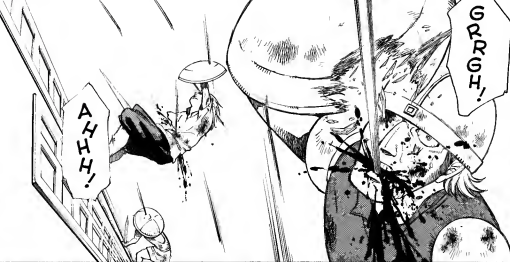


**ARBALISTS,
FORWARD!**



CHAK
u/r-1
CHAK
CHAK
CHAK

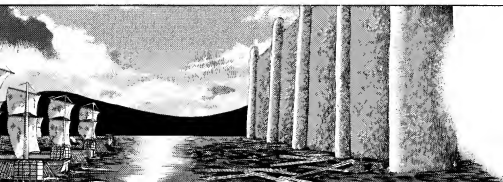
TALON





...WILL BE
SHOT ON
SIGHT.

ALL
DESERTERS...



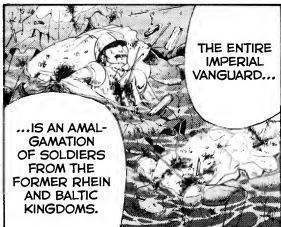


THOUGH
I MUST
SAY,

THEY ARE A
TENACIOUS
BUNCH.

PHOINIKE SENATE
PATRIKIOS

Nikephoros



THE ENTIRE
IMPERIAL
VANGUARD...

...IS AN AMAL-
GAMATION
OF SOLDIERS
FROM THE
FORMER RHEIN
AND BALTIC
KINGDOMS.



AND
YET NOT
A SINGLE
SOLDIER HAS
BREACHED
THE WALL.

THIS IS
THEIR
FOURTH
ALL-OUT
ATTACK,
RIGHT?

PHOINIKE SENATE PATRIKIOS
Zenon

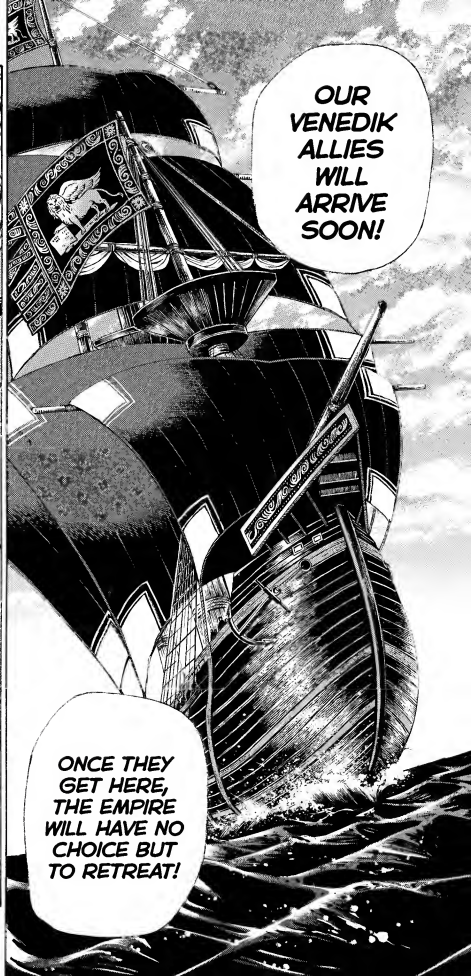


THIS IS
HOW THE
EMPIRE
DOES
THINGS.

PHOINIKE MAGISTROS
Konstantinos

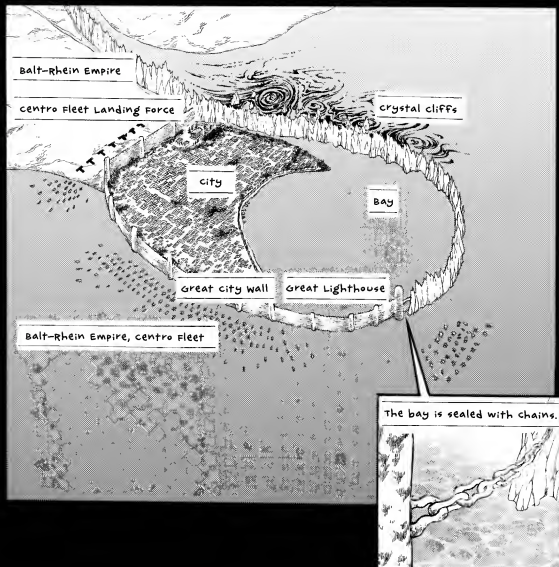


HOLDING
A CASTLE IS
HARD WORK,
BUT WE NEED
ONLY ENDURE
A LITTLE
LONGER!



OUR
VENEDIK
ALLIES
WILL
ARRIVE
SOON!

ONCE THEY
GET HERE,
THE EMPIRE
WILL HAVE NO
CHOICE BUT
TO RETREAT!





THE VENEDIK FLEET SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED DAYS AGO.

IT ONLY TAKES NINE DAYS TO SAIL FROM VENEDIK TO PHOINIKE,

YET WE ROSE THE BEACON ASKING FOR REINFORCEMENTS BEFORE THE FIGHTING BEGAN FIFTEEN DAYS AGO.

BUT, AREN'T THEY TAKING A LITTLE TOO MUCH TIME?

PHOINIKE KAISARAS
Apollodoros



BUT IF THAT IS TRULY THE CASE, THEN WE HAVE A SERIOUS PROBLEM ON OUR HANDS.

HOLDING OUR DEFENSES IS SIMPLE ENOUGH,

BUT IF WE CONTINUE TO BE SURROUNDED AT THIS RATE...

...WE ONLY HAVE ENOUGH PROVISIONS TO LAST A YEAR.



IT...

IT CAN'T BE...

NIKEPHOROS?

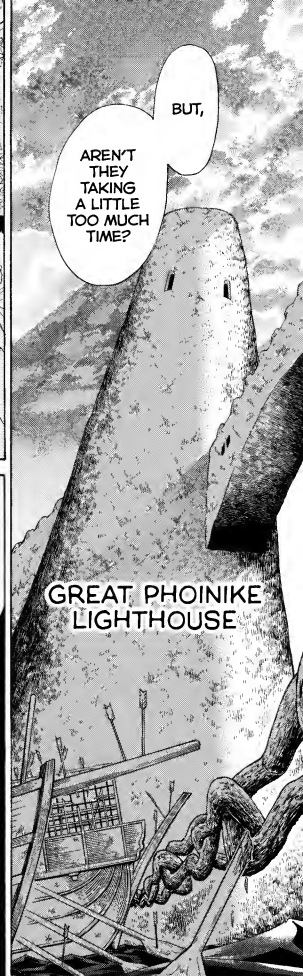
chatter



WHILE I DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT,

IT COULD BE THAT...

VENEDIK HAS BETRAYED US OUT OF FEAR FOR THE EMPIRE.



GREAT PHOINIKE LIGHTHOUSE

IF THERE'S ONE THING I'VE
LEARNED FROM THESE
STAFF MEETINGS...

chapter
1

FIFTEEN
DAYS SINCE
FIGHTING
BEGAN...



THEY MAY
VERY WELL
BE THE
ONES WHO
BACK OUT
FIRST.

SKRIT
SKRIT
SKRAT
PTCH

CONSIDERING
HOW MANY SHIPS
THEY SENT, THIS
CAMPAIGN IS
LIKELY PUSHING
THE LIMITS OF THE
EMPIRE'S MILITARY
FORCES.

THEN
AGAIN,

THE
LONGER THE
FIGHTING
GOES ON,
THE HARDER
IT IS FOR THE
IMPERIALS,
AS WELL.

THEN
THEY
WON'T
BACK
DOWN SO
EASILY.

IS
RECEIVING
THE FULL
SUPPORT OF
AN AGRICUL-
TURAL GIANT
LIKE THARROS,

IF
THE
EMPIRE
...



venedik
phoinike
tharros

BUT
WAIT.

THE ENEMY'S
SUPPLY FLEET
FLIES THE
BANNER OF
THARROS.

DON'T
BE SO
ANTSY.

VENEDIK
WILL
SURELY
COME!

...THEN
THIS WILL
BECOME A
BATTLE OF
WILLS.

IF THE
VENEDIK
FLEET

DON'T
SHOW UP...

...PHOINIKE HAS
NO DECISIVE
CHANCE AT
VICTORY!

...IT'S THAT
WITHOUT THE
GUARANTEE
OF VENEDIK'S
REINFORCE-
MENTS...





AND IN
RESPONSE
TO THIS
STALEMATE...

...I'M SURE
MINISTER LOUIS
HAS ALREADY
FORMULATED
SOME SORT
OF PLAN.



AND ENSURE
THAT REINFORCE-
MENTS ARRIVE
SAFELY.

WE SHOULD
DISPATCH
A SHIP TO
VENEDIK,



I'LL TAKE
ON THIS
MISSION
PERSON-
ALLY.

IF YOU
PROVIDE
ME WITH
ONE SHIP,

...



THAT'S
RIGHT.

WHAT?

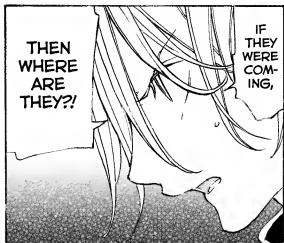
YOU WANT
TO BREAK
THROUGH
THE IMPERI-
AL FLEET?



...I WILL
NEGOTIATE
WITH VENEDIK
DIRECTLY!

WHETHER
THEY WILL
SEND REIN-
FORCEMENTS
OR NOT,

IN ORDER
TO CONFIRM
THE SITUATION
SO WE MIGHT
STRIVE TO
RESOLVE IT...



THEN
WHERE
ARE
THEY?!

IF
THEY
WERE
COM-
ING,



THE
VENEDIK
FLEET
WILL
COME.

THERE'S
NO NEED
FOR SUCH
A DAN-
GEROUS
MISSION.

IT'S UNTHINKABLE...

...THAT IBRAHIM
VALI WOULD START
A REBELLION!

AHH...

HOW HOLLOW AND
UNCERTAIN THOSE
WORDS SOUND...

...WHEN SOMEONE
ELSE SAYS THEM.

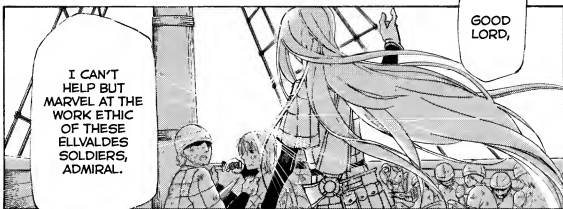
I APPRECI-
ATE YOUR
GOOD
INTENT,

BUT THIS
DISCUSSION
IS OVER.

THE DOGE*
OF VENEDIK
IS A CLOSE
FRIEND OF
MINE.

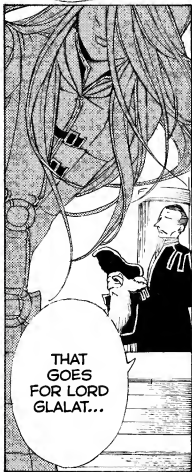
NO MATTER
THE SITUATION,
HE IS NOT THE
SORT OF MAN
WHO WOULD
BREAK A PACT.

*DOGE: AN ELECTED CHIEF-OF-STATE/RULER OF A REPUBLIC.



I CAN'T
HELP BUT
MARVEL AT THE
WORK ETHIC
OF THESE
ELLVALDES
SOLDIERS,
ADMIRAL.

GOOD
LORD,



THAT
GOES
FOR LORD
GLALAT...



FROM
WHAT I
UNDER-
STAND,

THEIRS IS A
MOUNTAIN
COUNTRY
BLESSED
WITH NEITHER
GOOD SOIL
NOR CLIMATE.



I
SUPPOSE
...

THEY FIGHT
FOR THOSE
WHO WERE
LEFT BEHIND.



...AND LADY
LELEDERIK,
AS WELL.



HEYA!
GOOD WORK
TODAY,
MAHMUT
BEY.

MUST BE
A REAL PAIN
DEALING WITH
MY OLD MAN AND
HIS COLLEAGUES
DAY AFTER DAY.



OH! MR.
KIROS.



KAISARAS
APOLLODORUS.

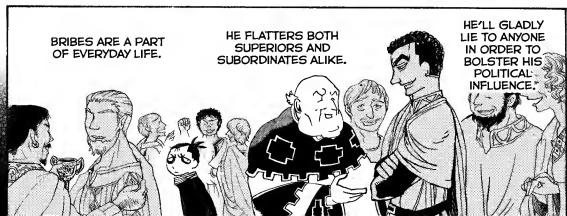


OLD
MAN?



THAT PIG
OF A MAN IS
OBSESSED
WITH POWER.

YOU
SEE,



BRIBES ARE A PART
OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

HE FLATTERS BOTH
SUPERIORS AND
SUBORDINATES ALIKE.

HE'LL GLADLY
LIE TO ANYONE
IN ORDER TO
BOLSTER HIS
POLITICAL
INFLUENCE.



I STARTED TO THINK THAT
I WOULD TURN OUT THE
SAME WAY IF I STAYED
IN THAT HOUSE.

MY OLD MAN WAS
SURROUNDED BY
PEOPLE LIKE THAT.



HUH?

BUT,
KIROS,

AREN'T
YOU GONNA
SUCCEED
YOUR DAD AS
KAISARAS?

IT GOT TO THE
POINT WHERE I
JUST STOPPED
GOING HOME.



...THAN TAKE
AFTER THAT
OLD FART!

I'D RATHER
FALL DEAD
IN A DITCH...



TO THINK
YOU WERE
A SPY ALL
ALONG...

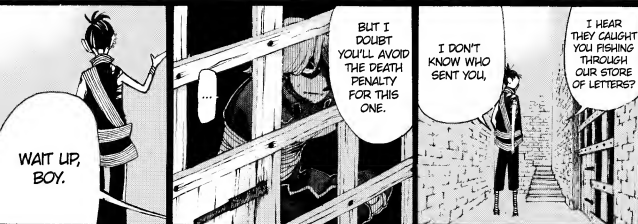
IT WAS
AROUND
THAT TIME...

HAND HIM
OVER TO
THE LICTOR
COME
MORNING!

...WHEN SULEYMAN BEY
BECAME IMPRISONED
AT THE MANSION.

WE WERE
COMPLETELY
FOOLED BY YOUR
REPUTATION AS
LORD GIOVANNI'S
PERSONAL
FALCONER.

I CHECKED
WITH FIORE, BUT
IT APPEARS YOU
QUIT AGES AGO.



WAIT UP,
BOY.

BUT I
DOUBT
YOU'LL AVOID
THE DEATH
PENALTY
FOR THIS
ONE.

I DON'T
KNOW WHO
SENT YOU,

I HEAR
THEY CAUGHT
YOU FISHING
THROUGH
OUR STORE
OF LETTERS?



I'LL TELL YOU AN
INTERESTING STORY
IF YOU KEEP ME
COMPANY UNTIL
MORNING.

I CAN TELL
YOU'RE BORED
TO DEATH WITH
YOUR LIFE.



WOULD
YOU...BE
INTERESTED
IN ASSISTING
ME WITH MY
WORK?

WRONG.

HMPH...

I WON'T
FALL FOR
THAT.

LET ME
GUESS, YOU HAVE
SOME SORT OF
IMPORTANT DUTY
TO CARRY OUT
AND WANT ME
TO LET YOU GO.

IS THAT
RIGHT?

I'VE THOUGHT
ABOUT RECRUITING
YOU FOR SOME
TIME NOW.

GUTS, STRENGTH,
CONNECTIONS...
THOSE ARE THE
QUALITIES I'M
LOOKING FOR.

I'M CURRENTLY
SCOUTING TALENT
FOR MY NETWORK
OF SPIES.

ABOUT HIS
EXPERIENCES,
HIS WORK, AND
HIS AMBITIONS.

SULEYMAN
BEY TOLD ME
EVERYTHING.



THAT
NIGHT,

I WAS STANDING
BEFORE HIS CELL,
KEY IN HAND.

THE NEXT
THING I
KNEW,

IF YOU OPEN
THIS CELL, YOU
WON'T BE ABLE
TO TURN BACK.
THINK AGAIN
CAREFULLY
BEFORE
YOU ACT.

WAIT!

?!

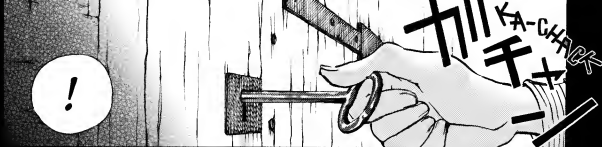
...MEANS
THAT YOU'LL
BE PUTTING
YOURSELF IN
THE SAME
DANGER
I'M IN.

WORKING
FOR MY SPY
NETWORK...

...YOU MAY
HAVE TO
BETRAY YOUR
OWN HOME
OF PHOINIKE.

FOR THE
SAKE OF
TORQYE...

DEPEND-
ING ON THE
CIRCUM-
STANCES,



THIS
SOUNDS A
HUNDRED
TIMES MORE
INTERESTING.

COMPARED
TO TAKING
AFTER MY
OLD MAN,

SO
WHAT?



I'VE BEEN
SEARCHING
FOR SOMETHING
LIKE THIS ALL
THIS TIME.

SOMETHING I
CAN PUT MY
LIFE ON THE
LINE FOR.



SO IT'S IN
MY BEST INTER-
ESTS TO GET
YOU AS FAR AWAY
FROM HERE AS
POSSIBLE.

THE WORK OF A
KULAK INCLUDES
ENSURING THE
SAFETY OF THE
"EYES" SUCH AS
YOURSELF.



WHY ARE
YOU GETTING
YOURSELF SO
INVOLVED?

IT'S GOT
NOTHING
TO DO WITH
TORQYE,
RIGHT?

PHOINIKE
NEEDS THE
SUPPORT
OF VENEDIK
IF THEY'RE
TO WIN THIS
WAR.

...IT'S FOR THE
SAFETY OF TORQYE.



BECAUSE

ooo

WHY...?

POOF

OOP.

LAMP'S
OUT.

...ARE A BIT
UNSTABLE.

THOSE
STAIRS...

OH, YEAH.
WATCH
YOUR STEP,
MAHMUT BEY.





SORRY...

S...



HUH?!

PICKING
UP WHERE
WE LEFT
OFF...

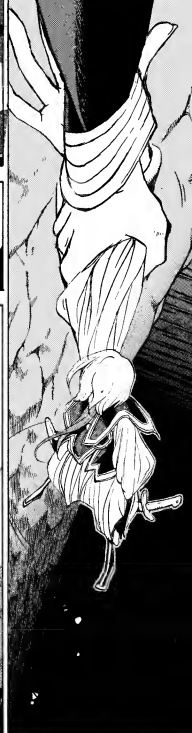
NOW,
THEN.



MAHMUT
BEY...

ALTHOUGH
YOU SAY IT'S
FOR THE
GOOD OF
PHOINIKE,

YOU'RE
REALLY
ACTING FOR
THE SAKE
OF TORQYE,
AREN'T YOU?



REGARD-
LESS OF
HOW MANY
SACRIFICES
IT TAKES.

YOU WANT
PHOINIKE TO
DEFEAT THE
EMPIRE...

IT SOUNDS
LIKE
FOR THE
SAKE OF
TORQYE'S
SAFETY,

FROM
WHAT
YOU'VE
TOLD ME,

WHA?!

HE'S NOT...

THAT'S EXACTLY
WHAT I'M PROPOSING.

...

PLEASE
CORRECT
ME IF I'M
WRONG.

IF HE...

NO...

THIS IS...

...BETWEEN ME
AND HIM.

THEN
THAT'S
HOW IT
MUST BE.

...LET'S
GO OF
MY HAND
HERE,

WHAT IS THE
RIGHT THING TO
SAY HERE?

WHAT WOULD
SULEYMAN DO IN
THIS SITUATION?

OR ZAGANOS
PASHA?

WHAT ABOUT
IBRAHIM...?

HAIL PASHA?



**THE
SAFETY
OF MY
COUNTRY
COMES
FIRST!**

**I AM
A SOLDIER
OF TORQYE.**

**BEFORE
ALL ELSE,**

**IT'S
EXACTLY
AS YOU
SAY.**

*IT
WOULD
ONLY
MEAN
THAT I'M
POWER-
LESS...*

*...TO
GRANT
MY OWN
WISHES.*

**THAT WILL
NEVER
CHANGE!**



LET ME
FALL HERE
AND NOW.

THEN
SO BE
IT.

IF YOU
CANNOT
FORGIVE MY
ACTIONS,

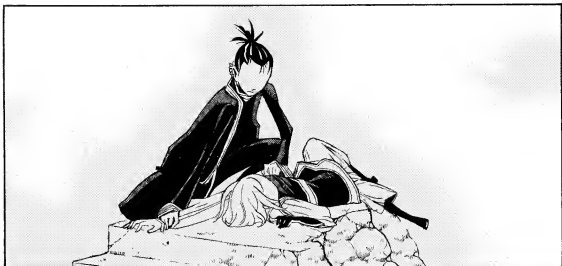


I WANT TO
DO EVERY-
THING I CAN
RIGHT NOW!

BUT
THE
EMPIRE
...

MUST
NOT GET
CONTROL
OF CENTRO!





WILL LEND
YOU MY
POWER.

I, KIROS,
KULAK OF THE
TORQYE SPY
NETWORK,

VERY
WELL.

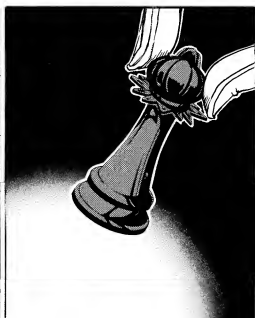


MAHMUT
BEY.

...

YOU SURE
KNOW HOW
TO LIGHT
A FIRE IN
SOMEONE,



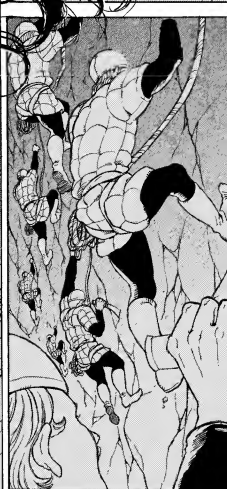




...THE
PIECES
ARE IN
PLACE TO
TAKE THE
ROOK.



YOU ALL
DID WELL.





MAHMUT
BEY.

IT LOOKS
GOOD ON
YOU,



LET'S
BOTH
COME
BACK
ALIVE.



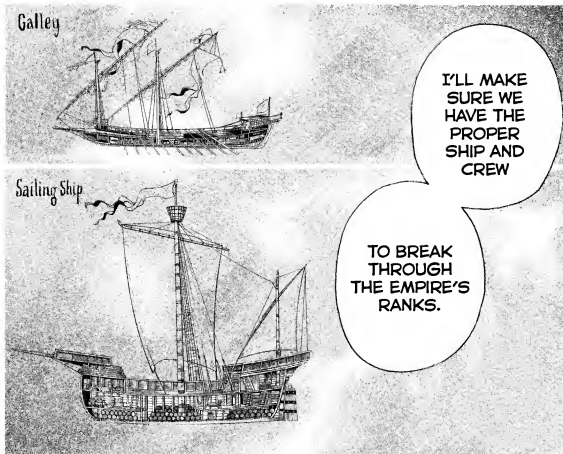
THAT
GOES FOR
YOU, TOO,
KIROS.



UN-
FORTU-
NATELY,
I DON'T
INTEND TO
BE BURIED
IN THESE
CLOTHES.



DRESSED
LIKE
THAT,
YOU CAN
DIE WITHOUT
CAUSING
TROUBLE
FOR YOUR
MOTHER-
LAND.



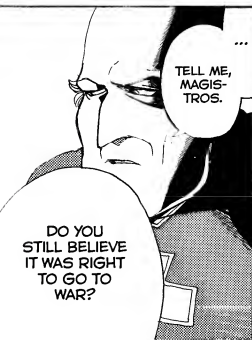


KAISARAS
APOLLODORUS!



...TO COOP-
ERATE WITH
THE OTHERS?

WOULD IT
KILL YOU...



...
TELL ME,
MAGIS-
TROS.

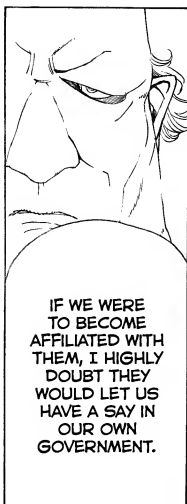
DO YOU
STILL BELIEVE
IT WAS RIGHT
TO GO TO
WAR?



EVERYONE
IN THE
CITY HAS
TAKEN UP
ARMS.

NOW THAT
WE'RE AT WAR,
SHOULDN'T
YOU PUT FORTH
YOUR BEST
EFFORT?

REGARD-
LESS
OF HOW
YOU FEEL
ABOUT IT,



IF WE WERE
TO BECOME
AFFILIATED WITH
THEM, I HIGHLY
DOUBT THEY
WOULD LET US
HAVE A SAY IN
OUR OWN
GOVERNMENT.



BALT-RHEIN
IS NO
EMPIRE.



DID
YOU NOT
SEE...

...THE
FATE OF
THOSE
ANNEXED
BY THE
EMPIRE?



I DO.



...IS THE
PHOINIKE
EMPEROR
OF OLD.

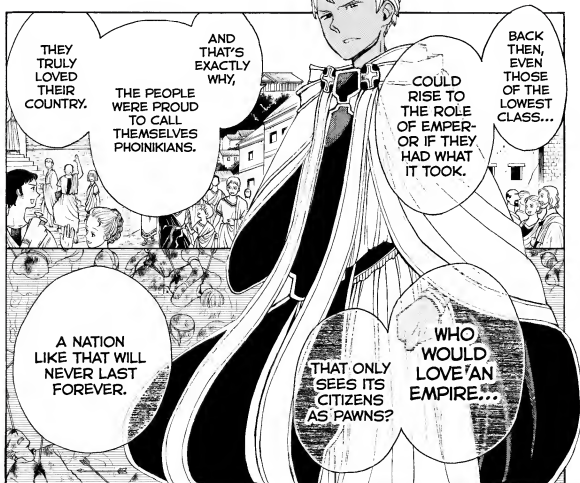
THE ONLY ONE
WHO WOULD
ALLOW SUCH
A THING...

OF
COURSE
NOT.



...THE
PHOINIKE
EMPIRE
FLOURISHED.

AND
YET...



THEY
TRULY
LOVED
THEIR
COUNTRY.

THE PEOPLE
WERE PROUD
TO CALL
THEMSELVES
PHOINIKIANS.

AND
THAT'S
EXACTLY
WHY,

— COULD
RISE TO
THE ROLE
OF EMPER-
OR IF THEY
HAD WHAT
IT TOOK.

BACK
THEN,
EVEN
THOSE
OF THE
LOWEST
CLASS...

A NATION
LIKE THAT
WILL NEVER
LAST
FOREVER.

THAT ONLY
SEES ITS
CITIZENS
AS PAWNS?

WHO
WOULD
LOVE AN
EMPIRE...

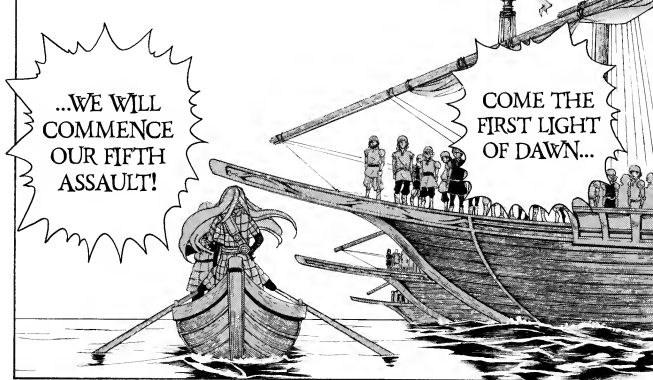


I STILL
BELIEVE

THIS WAR WAS
A MISTAKE.

EVEN
SO,





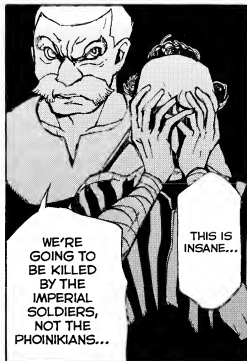
...WE WILL
COMMENCE
OUR FIFTH
ASSAULT!

COME THE
FIRST LIGHT
OF DAWN...



THE
LANDING
FORCE
VANGUARD
WILL BE
LED BY THE
CORONIA
ARMY.

THE
SEASIDE
VANGUARD
WILL BE
LED BY THE
CAMINO
ARMY.



WE'RE
GOING TO
BE KILLED
BY THE
IMPERIAL
SOLDIERS,
NOT THE
PHOINIKIANS...

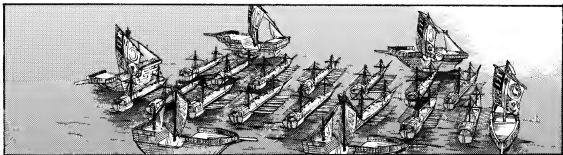
THIS IS
INSANE...

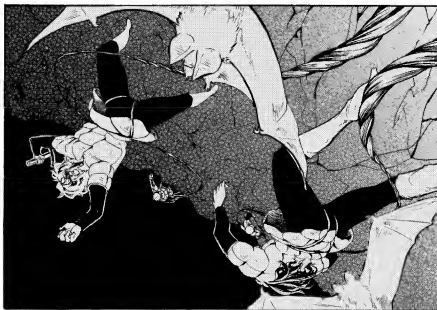


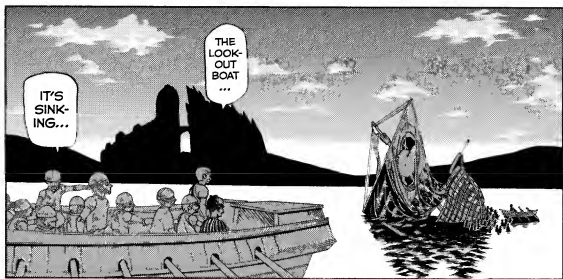
WE'VE
FAILED
FOUR
TIMES
ALREADY.

JUST
HOW LONG
IS THIS
GOING TO
CONTINUE?











WE WILL NOW
DEPART PHOINIKE
IN SECRET AND
SET SAIL FOR
VENEDIK.

ATTENTION!

No kidding!
Those imps need
to use their
heads more.
I was getting
seriously bored.

YOU
HAVE
MY
THANKS
...

I was
tired of
sticking
to the wall
all day,
anyway.

YET YOU
STILL
CHOSE
TO JOIN.

IT WILL
BE A
VOYAGE
FILLED
WITH DAN-
GER,

Eh,
not
really.

Dan-
ger?

Danger?



I STILL HAVE
A SCAR FROM
ONE OF THEIR
SPEARS ON
MY ASS...

GOT
THAT
RIGHT.

THE
LICTORS
ARE SCARIER,
TO BE HONEST.



WITH KIROS
AROUND,
I'M NOT
AFRAID OF
ANYONE.

YEAH.



WHY
DON'T
WE TAKE
THIS
CHANCE

TO MAKE
THOSE
IMPERIAL
BASTARDS
CRY?



ALL
THAT'S
LEFT...

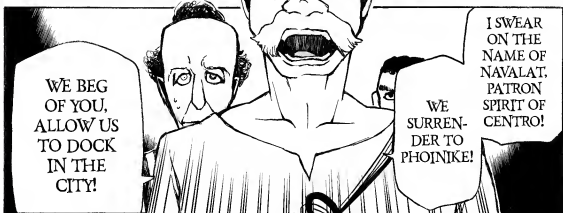
NOW,
THEN.

...



WITHOUT
THOSE STUFFY
SENATORS
FINDING OUT.

...IS TO UNDO
THE CHAINS
BLOCKING
THE PORT,





WHAT
ABOUT YOUR
FAMILIES?



...YOUR
FAMILIES
BACK HOME
WILL SUFFER
FOR IT, WILL
THEY NOT?

IF YOU
SEEK
REFUGE IN
PHOINIKE
...

THIS IS
CLEARLY
AN ACT.

SO,
THEY'RE
TRYING
TRICKERY
NOW.



THE NEXT
THING
WE KNEW,
WE WERE
BROUGHT
TO THIS
BATTLEFIELD.



WHEN
WE WERE
TAKEN
AWAY IN
CARRIAGES
BY THE
IMPERIAL
ARMY.

FIVE
MONTHS
AGO, WE
WENT TO
WORK IN
THE COAL
MINES LIKE
ANY OTHER
DAY,



FROM A
MINING VILLAGE
IN THE FORMER
KINGDOM OF
CAMINO LOCATED
IN THE NORTHERN
RHEIN REGION
THAT WAS ANNEXED
BY THE EMPIRE 60
YEARS AGO.

WE
COME
...



WITHOUT MEN
TO DO LABOR,
I CANNOT
IMAGINE OUR
FAMILIES
LIVED TO SEE
SPRING.

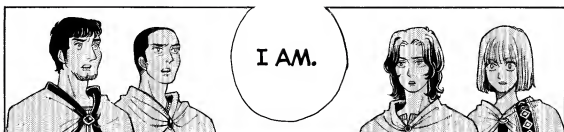


THE
CAMINO
WINTER IS
BITTER...









I AM.



...THE
IMPERIAL
ARMY IS
SURE TO
FALL INTO
CHAOS.

THERE ARE
UNDOUBTEDLY
MANY MORE
WHO ARE
UNHAPPY WITH
THE EMPIRE.

IF WE
ALLOW
THEM TO
DOCK
IN OUR
WALLS...



...I'D SAY
THEY'RE
ABOUT 800
ZIRA AWAY.

UNDER-
ESTIMATING
...



HOW-
EVER...

...THEY
ARE BEING
PURSUED BY
THE IMPERIAL
FLEET.



RAISE THE
CHAIN AGAIN
AS SOON AS
THE DESERTERS
MAKE IT
THROUGH!



ALL
RIGHT!

HURRY!

I RE-
PEAT!



LET THE
IMPERIAL
ARMY DE-
SERTERS
INTO THE
HARBOR!

RELEASE
THE CHAINS
AT THE
HARBOR
MOUTH
IMMEDIATELY!

ATTEN-
TION,
CHAIN
ROOM!

THIS
IS AN
ORDER!





BALT-RHEIN...

JUST YOU
WATCH,

LET THE
IMPERIAL
ARMY DESERT-
ERS INTO THE
HARBOR!

LOYALTY IS
EARNED THROUGH
PRIDE IN ONE'S
COUNTRY.

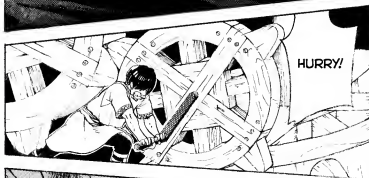
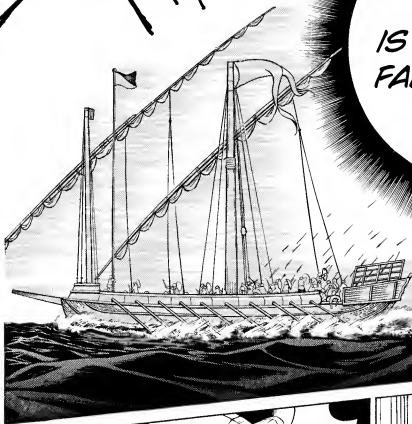
NO ONE IS
RULED BY THEIR
OWN FREE
WILL.

RAISE THE
CHAINS AS
SOON AS THE
DESERTERS
PASS!

BUT YOU
WERE TOO
ARROGANT
FOR THAT.

WHOOOSH

AND THIS
IS THE RESULT,
FALSE EMPIRE!



HURRY!

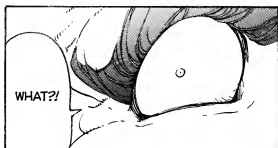
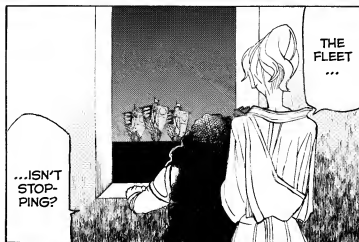


BLUB



THEY
GALLEY IS
THROUGH!

RAISE
THE
CHAINS!





WHY IS ITS
GAUGE SO
SHALLOW?!

THE SHIP
IN THE
MIDDLE!



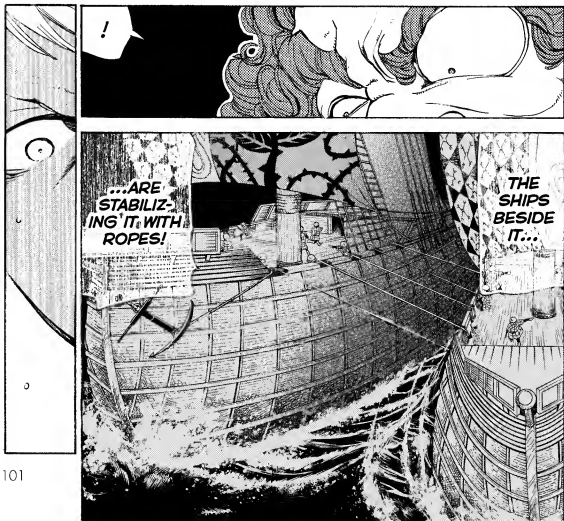
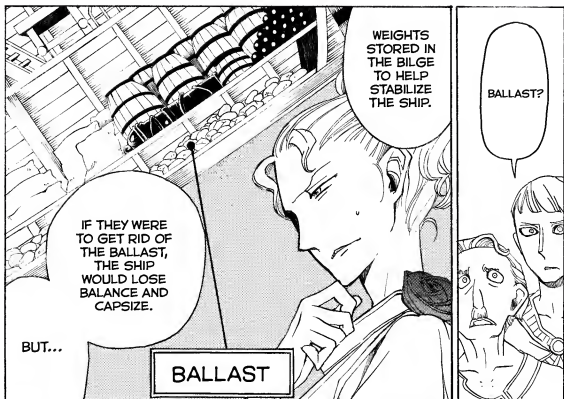
IT
CAN'T
BE...

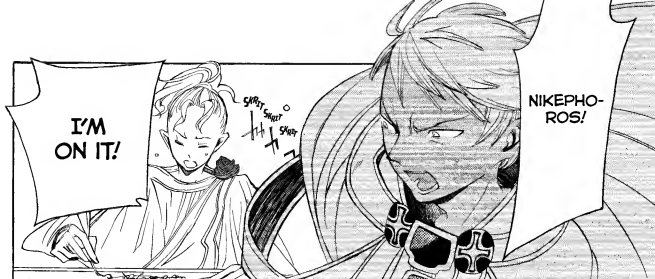
ITS GAUGE
IS BARELY
TWO ZIRA!

THAT DEPTH IS
IMPOSSIBLE
EVEN WITHOUT
ANY CARGO.



**THEY'RE
DUMPING
THEIR
BALLAST?**







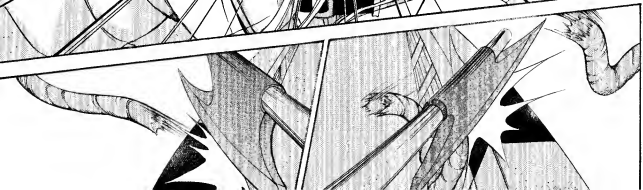
THEY'RE
GOING...

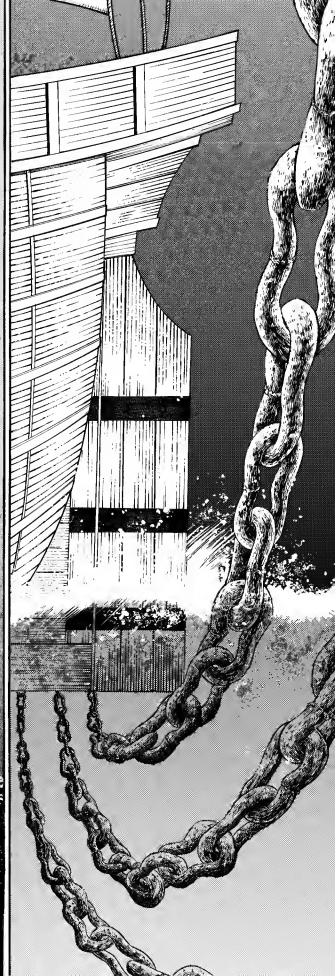
...TO
BREAK
THROUGH!

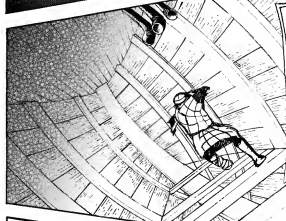


CUT
THE
ROPES!

BOTH
SHIPS,







NOW!
BREAK
THE
WALL!

STORE-
ROOM!





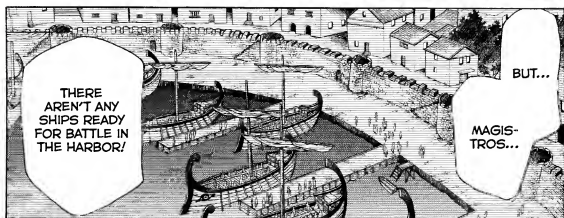
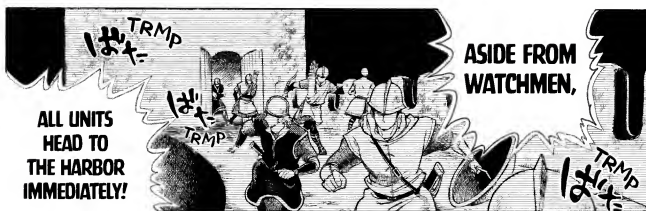


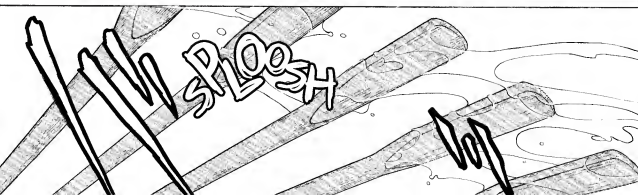


**MAGIS-
TROS!**

**THE IMPERIAL
FLEET HAS
INFILTRATED
THE HARBOR!**

**ALERT
ALL UNITS
STATIONED AT
THE WALL!**





**A
SINGLE
SHIP...**

**IS HEADED
RIGHT INTO
IMPERIAL
RANKS!**

**A
SHIP!**

Fasul 15 **The Snowy Wolf**

**BUST
A HOLE
OPEN IN
THEIR
SIDE!**

**GO, S.S.
KERATA
SAVRA'!**

ORIGATA SAVRA
ROSHIN LEARD

?!



OUR
OBJECTIVE
ISN'T TO DIS-
EMBARK ON
LAND, ANYWAY.

IT MATTERS
NOT. THIS
WORKS TO
OUR ADVAN-
TAGE.

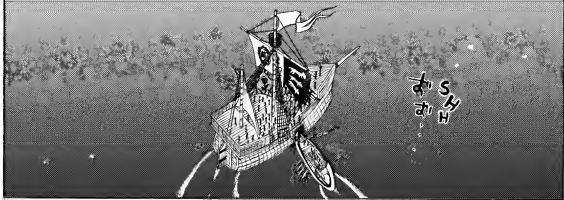
LET
THEM
RAM
US.



A
PHOINKE
SHIP IS...!



LORD
GLALAT!



ALL RIGHT!

NEXT,
COVER
YOUR
HEADS
WITH THE
SHIELDS!



PERFECT.

WILL
THIS DO,
MAHMUT
BEY?



THE BEST
COUNTER TO
A SURPRISE
ATTACK...

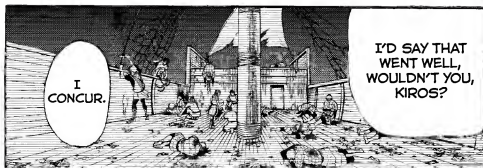
...IS
ANOTHER
SURPRISE
ATTACK.



?!

RUSTLE



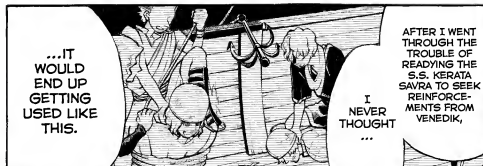


I
CONCUR.

I'D SAY THAT
WENT WELL,
WOULDN'T YOU,
KIROS?



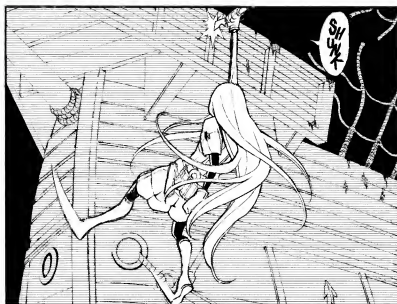
BUT I
GOTTA
SAY,



...IT
WOULD
END UP
GETTING
USED LIKE
THIS.

I
NEVER
THOUGHT
...

AFTER I WENT
THROUGH THE
TROUBLE OF
READYING THE
S.S. KERATA
SAVRA TO SEEK
REINFORCE-
MENTS FROM
VENEDIK,













SPLASH

HE
SPLASHED
OIL ON HIS
WINGS!

ISKAN-
DAR!

1st FLAP
1st FLAP
WADDLE

WADDLE

KUH!

KINK

W

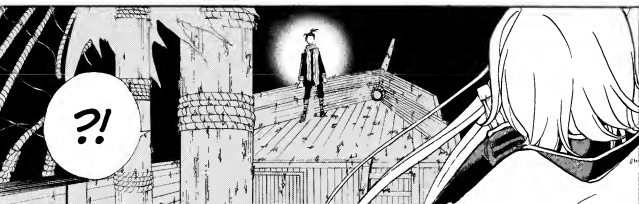
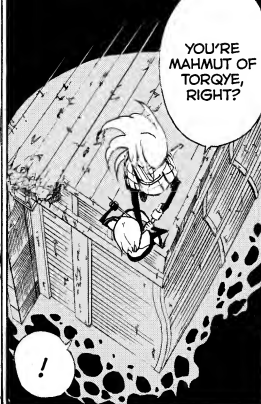


THIS IS BAD...





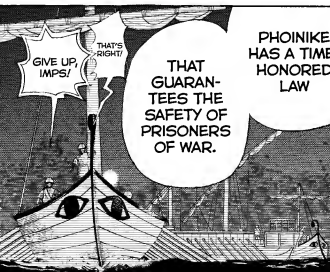
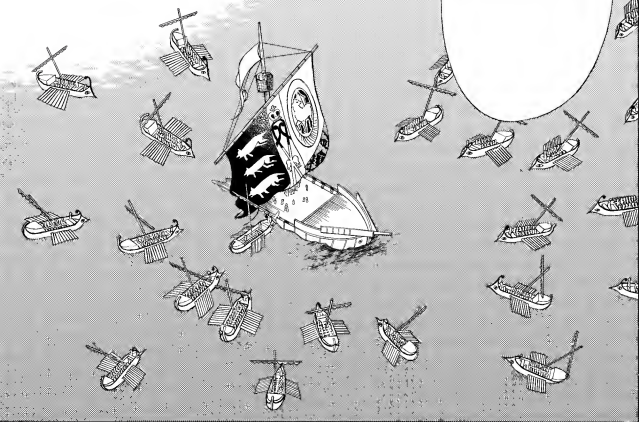








**PLEASE
SURRENDER.**



**GIVE UP,
IMPS!**

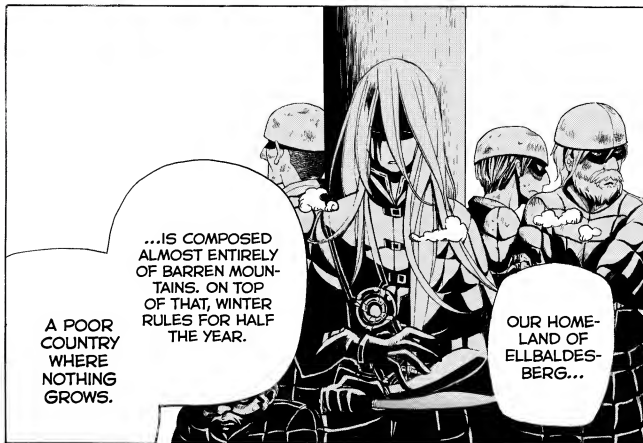
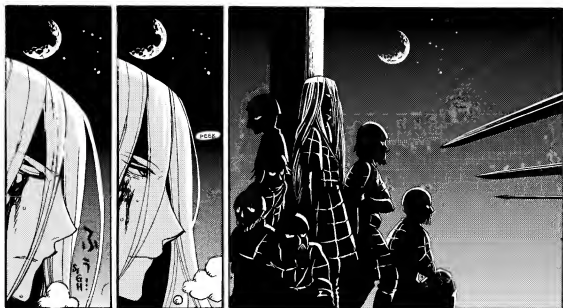
**THAT'S
RIGHT!**

**THAT
GUARAN-
TEES THE
SAFETY OF
PRISONERS
OF WAR.**

**PHOINIKE
HAS A TIME-
HONORED
LAW**



**DON'T
WORRY,
WE WON'T
TAKE YOUR
LIVES.**



A POOR
COUNTRY
WHERE
NOTHING
GROWS.

...IS COMPOSED
ALMOST ENTIRELY
OF BARREN MOUN-
TAINS. ON TOP
OF THAT, WINTER
RULES FOR HALF
THE YEAR.

OUR HOME-
LAND OF
ELLBALDES-
BERG...

HOWEVER,

WILL BE
BESTOWED
UPON OUR
COUNTRY.

...AND
MAKE PHOINIKE
AN IMPERIAL TERRI-
TORY, HALF OF THIS
CITY'S BOUNTIFUL
TAX REVENUE

IF WE
WIN THIS
WAR...



OUR
LIVES
MEAN
LITTLE.

THE
FUTURE OF
OUR HOME-
LAND IS AT
STAKE.



LOUIS...
I KNEW
IT.



THAT
IS WHAT
MINISTER
LOUIS PROM-
ISED.





ARE YOU
REALLY
SATISFIED
WITH THAT?!

IF YOU DIE
HERE, YOUR
DEATH WILL
BE IN VAIN!



I LIVE IN
BATTLE.

I AM.



PLIP

TO DIE IN
BATTLE
SOMEDAY.

AND
IT IS MY
FATE...

PLIP

IT'S
LIKE...

...HE'S
TRYING TO
PROLONG
THIS FIGHT
FOR AS LONG
AS POSSIBLE...



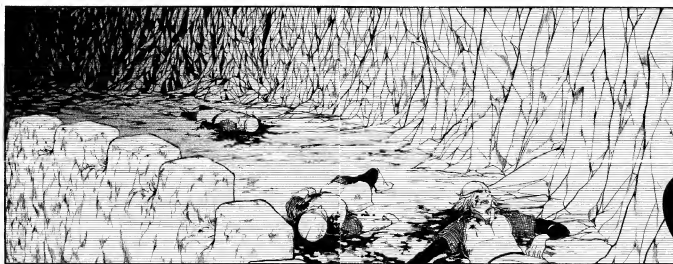
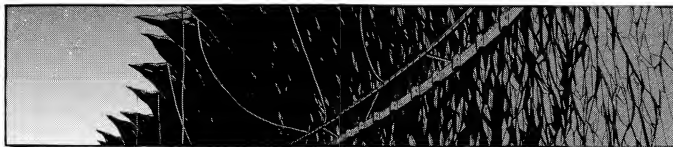
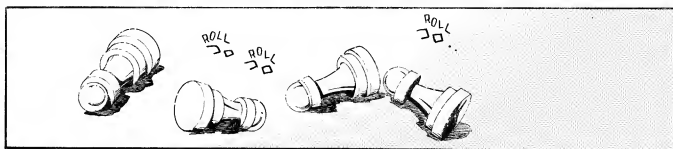
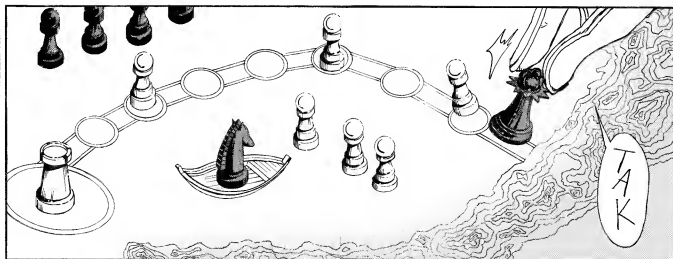
WHAT IS
THIS...?



...TO KEEP EVERY
PAIR OF EYES IN
PHOINIKE GLUED HERE.

IT'S AS IF
THEY WANT...



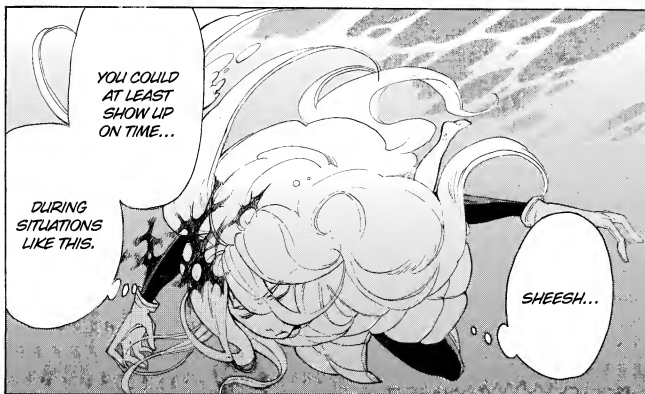




...THE
CITY IS
OURS.

WITH
THIS...





YOU COULD
AT LEAST
SHOW UP
ON TIME...

DURING
SITUATIONS
LIKE THIS.

SHEESH...





PH
EW

SORRY
WE'RE
LATE...



Ahh...

AND
HERE I
SAID I
WANTED
TO HAVE
THIS SET-
TLED...

BY
THE
TIME
ORION
CATCH-
ES THE
MOON.



I
MUST
SAY...



YET
BARELY A
THOUSAND
MADE IT
HERE.

WE BE-
GAN WITH
OVER TEN
THOUSAND
TROOPS,

...WE
SURE
LOST A
LOT OF
MEN.



I GUESS
ALL THAT
TALK ABOUT
THIS CITY BEING
IMPREGNABLE
WASN'T JUST
FOR SHOW,
AFTER ALL.



WELL,
IT'S BEEN
FUN.







IT APPEARS
WE'VE PLAYED
RIGHT INTO
THE EMPIRE'S
HANDS.



THE FLEET
THAT INFILTRATED
THE HARBOR...

THE DESERT-
ERS FROM
THE IMPERIAL
ARMADA,



AS THEY
SCALED THE
CRYSTAL
CLIFFS...

TO DIVERT
OUR ATTENTION
AWAY FROM THE
LANDING FORCE

IT WAS
ALL JUST A
PLOY



WE LOST
THIS WAR THE
MOMENT IT
BEGAN.

A METICU-
LOUS PLAN
INVOLVING A
REASON-
DEFYING
SUICIDE
CORPS...



IS
THIS
THE
END...

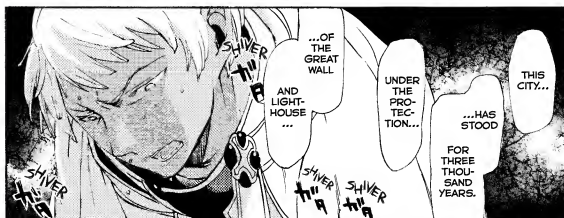
...OF
PHOINIKE?

N
I
K
E
P
H
O
R
O
S
!

**DON'T BE
FOOLISH,**



?!



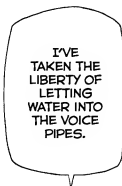


**DO NOT
GIVE IN
TO THEIR
COWARD-
LY MIND
GAMES!**

**THIS
BATTLE
ISN'T
OVER
YET!**

**IF WE CAN
JUST HOLD
OUR DEFENSES
AND WAIT FOR
THE VENEDIK
ARMADA...!**







**YOU ARE
THE ONE
BEING
RIDICULOUS!**



**DON'T
BE RIDIC-
ULOUS!**

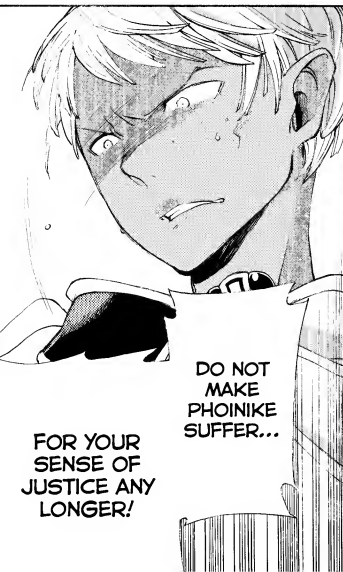
**WITHOUT
JUSTICE,
A NATION
IS—**



**IS THAT
JUSTICE
REALLY
WORTH
HOLDING
ONTO?**

**MEANS
SACRIFICING
OUR PEOPLE,**

**IF YOUR
BATTLE
FOR
JUSTICE,**



**DO NOT
MAKE
PHOINIKE
SUFFER...**

**FOR YOUR
SENSE OF
JUSTICE ANY
LONGER!**



**IF YOU
WANT TO
FIGHT SO
BADLY,**

**THEN TAKE
UP A SWORD
AND FIGHT
THE EMPIRE
TO YOUR
DEATH!**



BY
VOTE
OF
HAND.

BE
TURNED
OVER TO
ECCLESIA,

I PROPOSE
THAT THE
CONCLUSION
TO THIS
WAR...

ACCORDING TO
TRADITION OF
THE PHOINIKE
COUNCIL OF
OLD,



OF SURREN-
DERING TO
THE EMPIRE...

THOSE IN
FAVOR



...RAISE
YOUR
HAND.



**FINE,
THEN!**

**I WILL TAKE
RESPONSIB-
ILITY FOR
MY ACTIONS!**



**THERE IS
NOTHING
FOR YOU
TO ATONE
FOR!**

ENOUGH!



**I AM
KAISA-
RAS!**

**THE RE-
SPONSIBILITY
IS MINE TO
BEAR!**



I NEVER
EXPECTED
THAT IT WOULD
ACTUALLY
SUCCEED.

WHEN
LORD
GLALAT
FIRST TOLD
ME OF THIS
PLAN...



WOULD MANAGE
TO TOPPLE THE
CITY THAT'S STOOD
UNDEFEATED FOR
THREE THOUSAND
YEARS.

INDEED...
TO THINK THAT
MINISTER LOUIS,
WITHOUT STEPPING
FOOT OUTSIDE
OF HIS ROOM IN
ST. MICHAEL,



SOON
ALL OF
RUMERIANA...

WILL
FALL INTO
BALT-RHEIN'S
HANDS.

AT THIS
RATE,

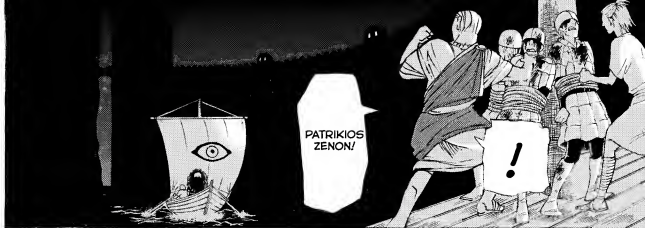
WE'VE LOST...



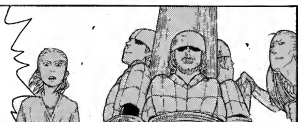
STOP!

DAMN YOU...



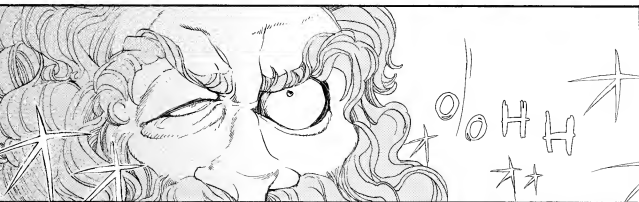
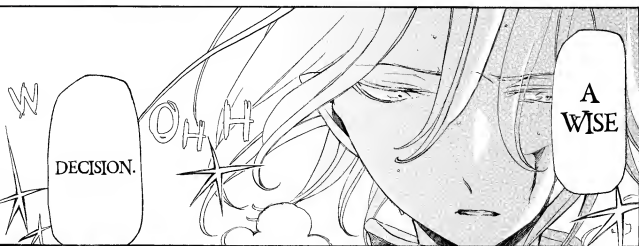


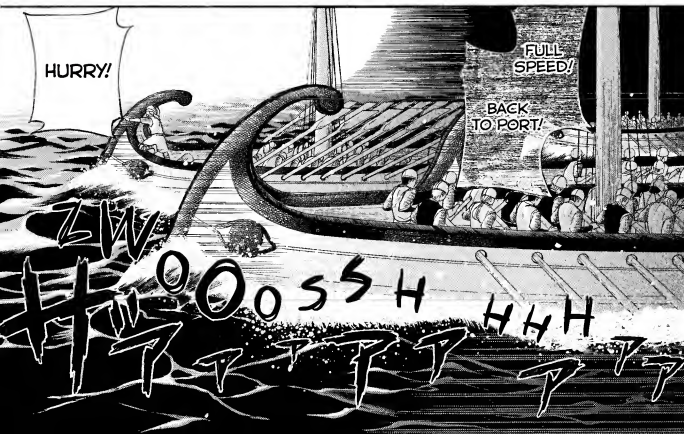
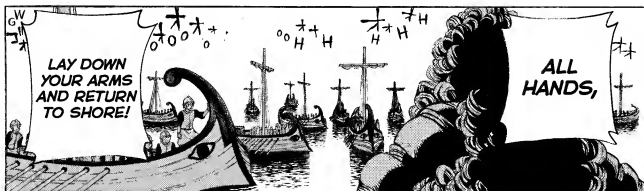
**I'M HERE TO
DELIVER THE
COUNCIL'S
DECISION!**



**TODAY, ON THE
29TH DAY OF THE
5TH MONTH IN
THE YEAR 3022
OF THE PHOINIKE
CALENDAR, AND
YEAR 451 OF
THE IMPERIAL
CALENDAR...**

**...PHOINIKE
HEREBY
SURRENDERS
TO THE BALT-
RHEIN EMPIRE!**







GO
THERE AND
DISGUISE
YOURSELVES
AS PHOINIKE
TROOPS.

THERE
ARE
MEDICAL
ENCAMP-
MENTS
ALONG
THE CITY
WALLS.

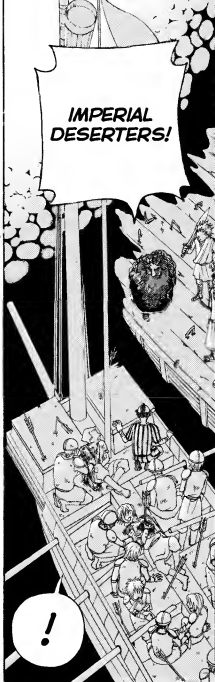


DAMN
IT ALL!



...WHEN
WE FINALLY
MANAGED
TO ESCAPE
BALT-RHEIN.

JUST
...

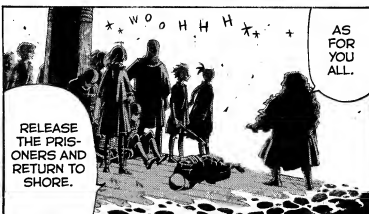


**IMPERIAL
DESERTERS!**



THERE'S NO
CAUSE FOR
CONCERN.

MAHMUT
PASHA,
YOU...



RELEASE
THE PRIS-
ONERS AND
RETURN TO
SHORE.

AS
FOR
YOU
ALL.



...THAT
MAHMUT BEY
MAKES IT OUT
OF THE CITY.

I'LL
SEE
TO
IT...



DON'T
COME
BACK.



AFTER I
ESCORT
HIM PART-
WAY, I'LL-

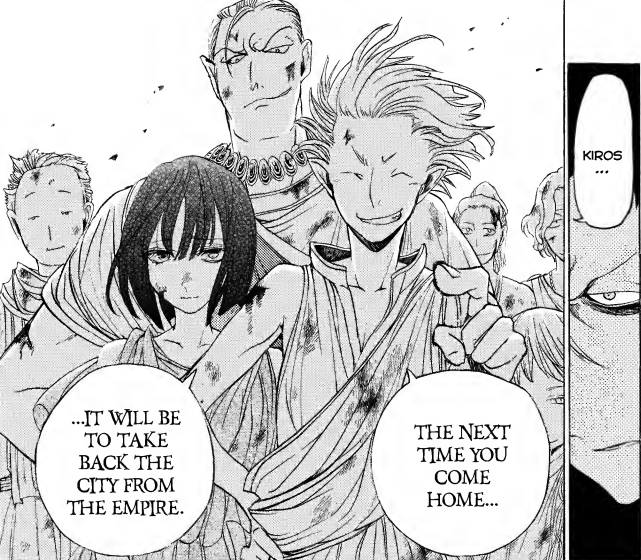
DON'T
WORRY.



YOU HAVE
MORE IMPOR-
TANT THINGS
TO DO.

WE'LL
LOOK
AFTER
THE CITY.

WHILE
YOU'RE
AWAY,



KIROS
...

...IT WILL BE
TO TAKE
BACK THE
CITY FROM
THE EMPIRE.

THE NEXT
TIME YOU
COME
HOME...



YEAH...

...



WE CAN'T
GUARANTEE
YOUR SAFETY IF
THE IMPERIAL
ARMY FINDS
YOU.

YOUNG
KIROS
IS THE
KAISARAS'
SON.

TO BE
HONEST,
I AGREE.





I HAVE
ONLY ONE
THING TO
SAY TO YOU
PEOPLE.

...



OH?

AM I
SEEING
THINGS?

THE
CRESCENT
FLAG ATOP
THE LIGHT-
HOUSE HAS
BEEN...



OH, SHUT
UP, YOU
WHIMPER-
ING MUTT!



THE
REASON
PHOINIKE
SAW 3000
YEARS OF
PROSPER-
ITY IS—

JUST TAKE
A LOOK AT
HISTORY!



IF YOU
KEEP
DOING
THINGS
THE WAY
YOU HAVE
BEEN...

IT WILL
INEVITABLY
BE YOUR
OWN DOWN-
FALL.

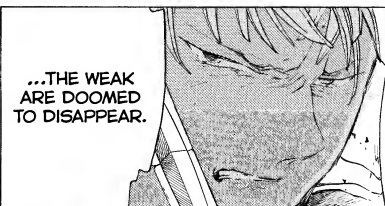


HAVE THE
RIGHT TO
PROSPER.

ONLY THE
STRONG...

BE IT
PEOPLE,

OR
NATIONS,



...THE WEAK
ARE DOOMED
TO DISAPPEAR.

NO MATTER
HOW RIGHTEOUS
YOUR IDEALS,

OR HOW LONG
YOUR HISTORY...



YOU'RE
WRONG!



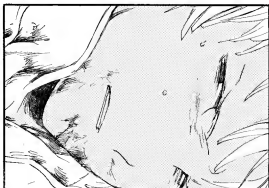


...I WILL NEVER
ACKNOWLEDGE
THE BALT-RHEIN
EMPIRE.

EVEN
SO...



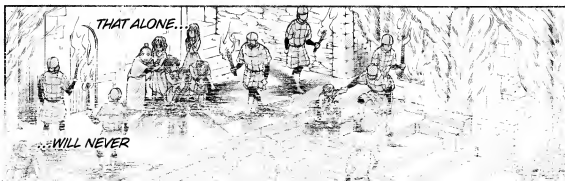
AND YET...



...IT DOES
NOT CHANGE
THE FACT...

NO MATTER
WHAT I SAY...

...THAT I WAS
THE ONE WHO
BURNED MY
BELOVED
PHOINIKE.



THAT ALONE...

...WILL NEVER



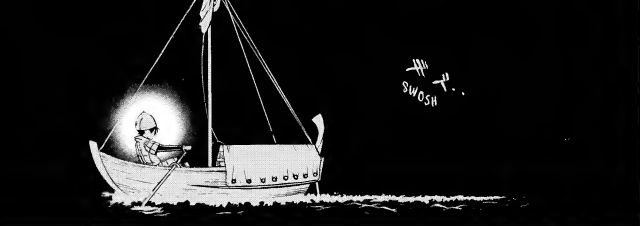
MY, MY, MY.
EVEN THOUGH
YOUR CITY IS
BURNING TO
THE GROUND...





TO BE
ABLE TO
DIE STILL
DRUNK ON
YOUR OWN
EGO...

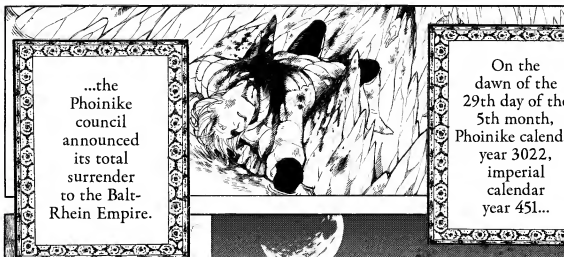
YOU ARE
ONE LUCKY
MAN.





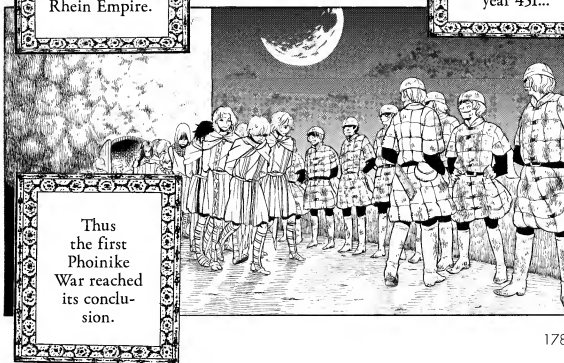
Total
deaths:
900
Phoinike,
well over
50,000
imperial.

Total
forces:
8,000
Phoinike
soldiers,
120,000
imperial
soldiers.



...the
Phoinike
council
announced
its total
surrender
to the Balt-
Rhein Empire.

On the
dawn of the
29th day of the
5th month,
Phoinike calendar
year 3022,
imperial
calendar
year 451...



Thus
the first
Phoinike
War reached
its conclu-
sion.

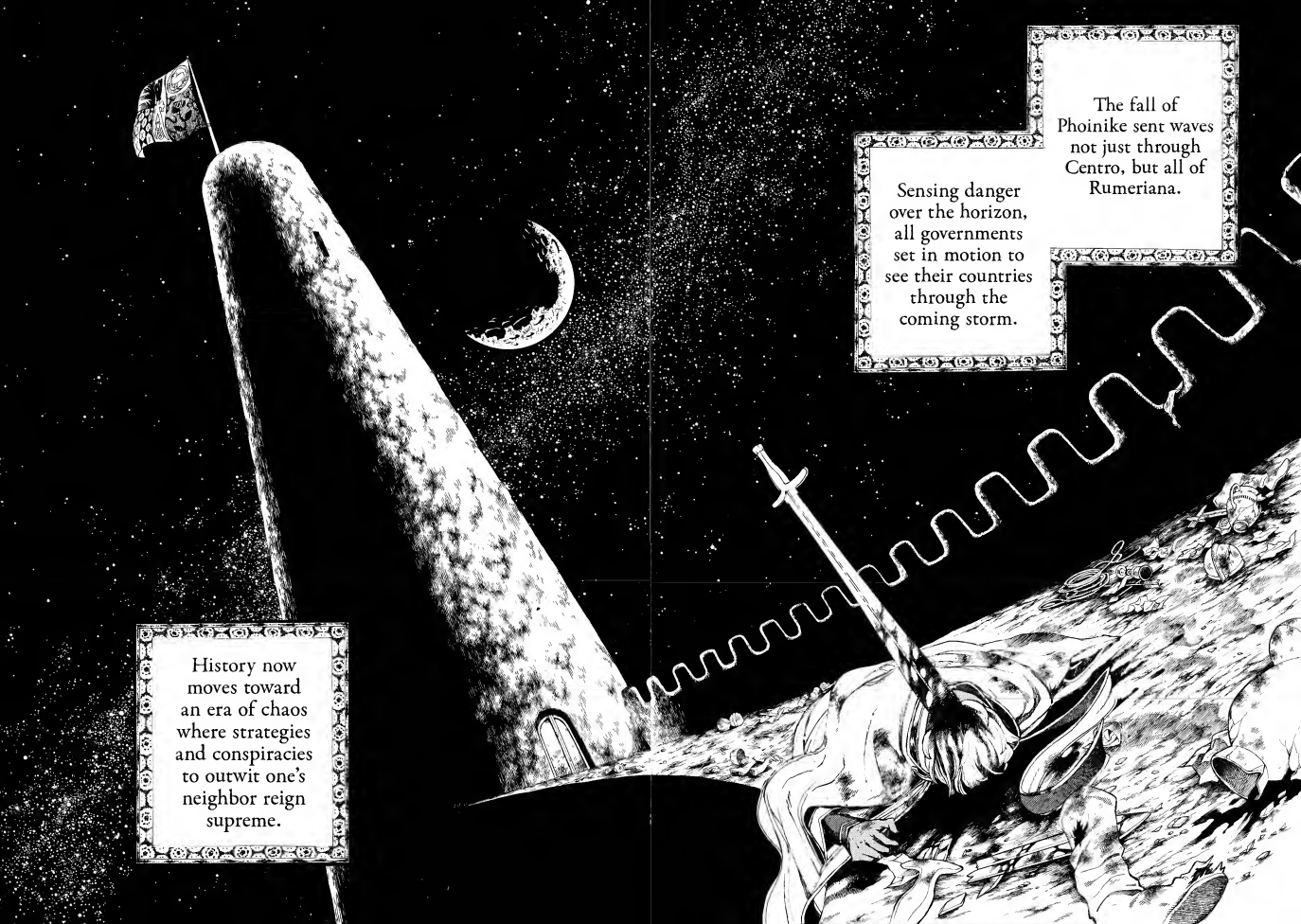
...the Empire
succeeded
in obtaining
another crucial
point on the
Centro trade
route.

In addition to
the tributary
city-state of
Tharros...

...the Emperor
promised the
Ellvaldes Fiefdom
a permanent
fifty-percent
share of the tax
revenue collected
in the new
territory.

In response
to Duchess
Lelederik's
outstanding
contributions
to the battle...

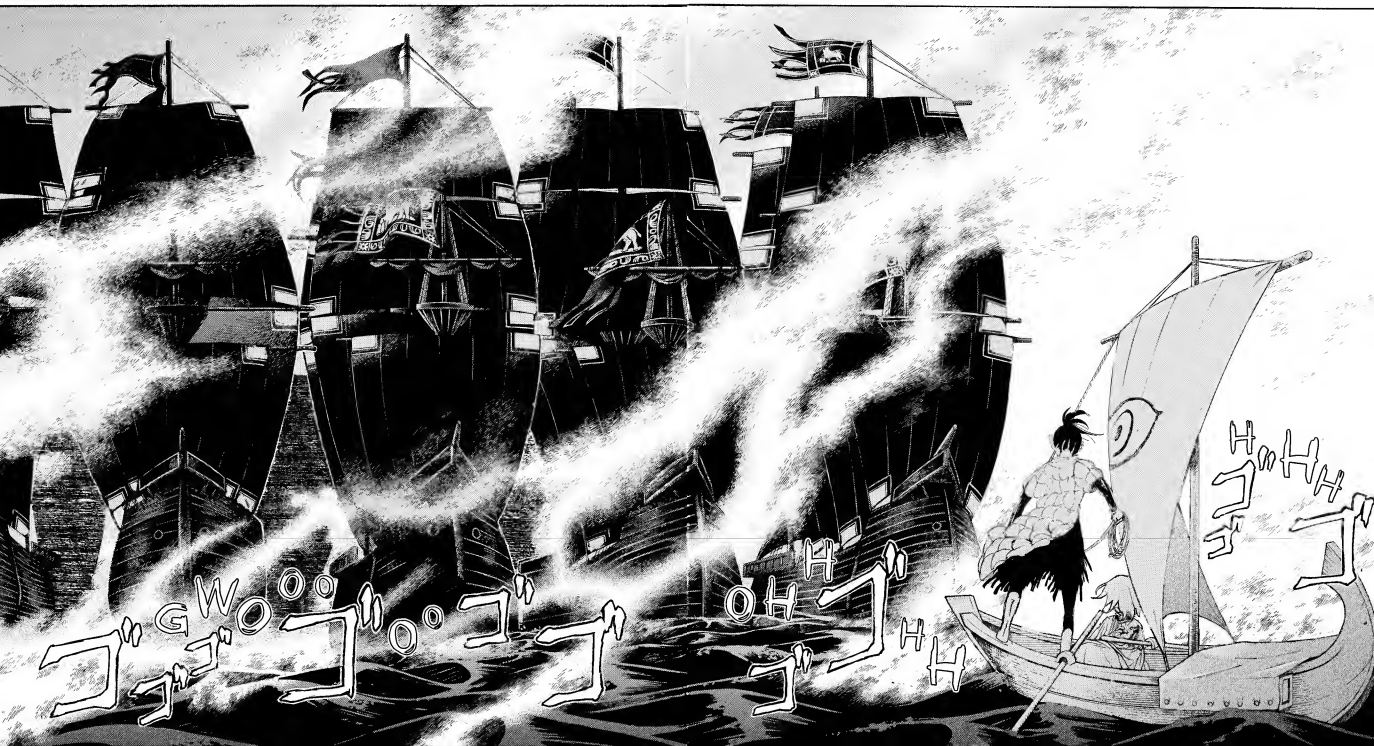
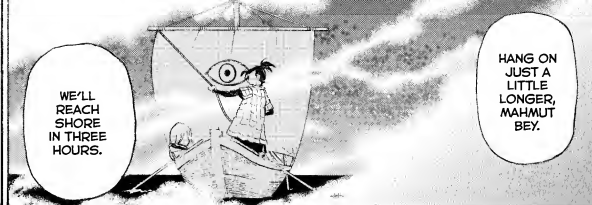


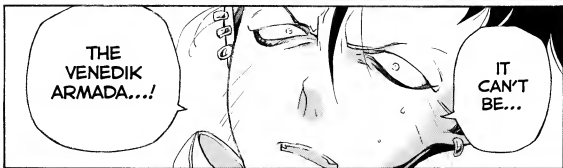


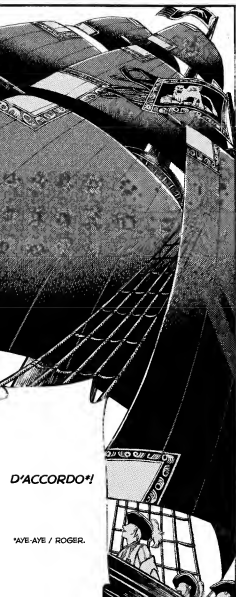
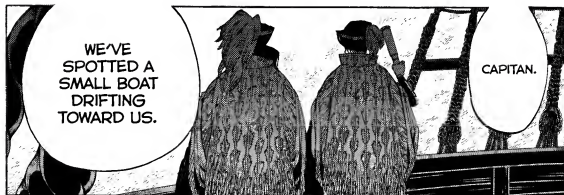
History now
moves toward
an era of chaos
where strategies
and conspiracies
to outwit one's
neighbor reign
supreme.

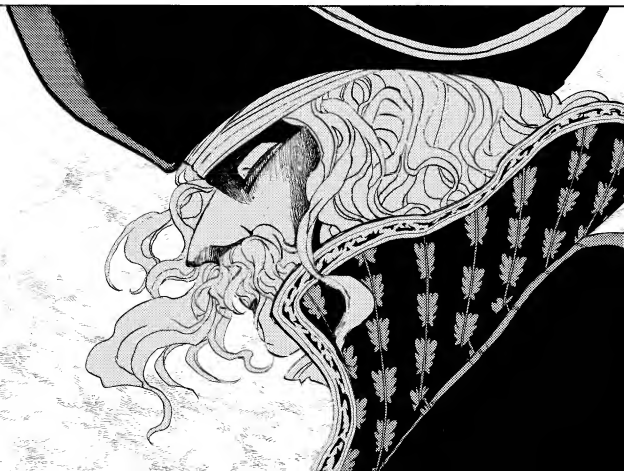
Sensing danger
over the horizon,
all governments
set in motion to
see their countries
through the
coming storm.

The fall of
Phoinike sent waves
not just through
Centro, but all of
Rumeriana.









Altair:
A Record
of Battles



to be continued...



ASSISTANTS

YOSHIZAWA ANNA

KANEKO CHIEMI

SAITO MINA

YABE HITOMI

AKIYAMA SAYURI

KOIKE AKEMI

ISHINO HARUNA

NAGAMINE SAKURA

EDITOR

YAMAGUCHI TAKASHI

EDITOR (Book work)

SUGIYAMA RIKA

DESIGNER

SAKAGAMI KAZUYA (RAZZO)

SPECIAL THANKS

INARI SENO

AND FAMILY AND YOU!!



Glossary of Terms

Binbashu	Major
Buyuk Pasha	Great General
Divan	The council of generals
Ecclesia	Political assembly of citizens.
Eyalet	Province
Idareci	Administrator
Kaisaras	Caesar
Kolagasu	Senior Captain
Kubbe altu	Council hall
Lictor	An officer who attends the magistrate
Magistros	Magister
Nefer	Private
Pasha	General
Patrikios	Patrician
Rod Orm	A cult currently working for Minister Louis, which employs the use of a number of crude metal weapons. The original term, "Rod Orm," also means "Red Snake" in Swedish.
Shurta	Elite police force
Vali	Provincial Governor
Vezir	Vizier
Yuzbashu	Captain
Zira	1 zira = 2.25 feet/68.6 cm

Altair: A Record of Battles 3

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